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SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

Inclusion Rates for Students with Disabilities: Results 2007-2009. National Center for Education Statistics. September 29, 2011.

The research and development report provided two measures of change in each NAEP participating state's inclusion rate taking into consideration the prevalence of different types and severities of disabilities and the accommodations the states permits in their own testing programs compared to those allowed by NAEP to students with disabilities in 4th- and 8th- grade reading and mathematics assessments. The study reported results for all 50 states and District of Columbia and used data from the 2005, 2007, and 2009 NAEP assessments of fourth- and eighth-grade reading and mathematics. This two approach methodology, nation-based and jurisdiction-specific, analyzed the inclusion rates from different perspectives. The analysis indicates the status and change in state level inclusion rates. The report presented status of inclusion in 2009 and changes in the rates from 2007 and 2005.

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/studies/Inclusion_Highlights_2009.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

Slum Clearance and Urban Renewal in the United States. National Burea of Economic Research. William J. Collins and Katharine J. Shester. September 2011.

The report studies the local effects of the Housing Act of 1949, which established a federally subsidized program that helped cities clear areas for redevelopment, rehabilitate deteriorating structures, complete comprehensive city plans, and enforce building codes. The authors use an instrumental variable strategy to estimate the program's effects on city-level measures of median income, property values, employment and poverty rates, and population. The estimates are generally positive and economically significant, and they are not driven by differential changes in cities' demographic composition. The results are consistent with a model of spatial equilibrium in which local productivity is enhanced. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nber.org/papers/w17458.pdf [PDF format, 43 pages].

Managing a Greek Default. Council on Foreign Relations. Christopher Alessi. September 29, 2011.

Despite a German parliamentary vote to boost the eurozone's bailout mechanism, Greek sovereign debt levels appear unsustainable and a default may be inevitable. Most economists think the question now is how to make the process orderly. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/financial-crises/managing-greek-default/p26060 [HTML format, various paging].

Reinvigorating the U.S.-Thailand Alliance. The Heritage Foundation. Walter Lohman. September 28, 2011.

The United States and Thailand have a long history of close relations. After 9/11, the U.S. renewed its attention to the relationship, identifying shared interests and values. The military coup in 2006 weakened the relationship, but the return of a newly elected civilian government may present an opening for the U.S. to reinvigorate economic, political, and military relations with Thailand. Since World War II, the U.S.-Thai alliance has been the linchpin of U.S. relations with the region. By demonstrating its commitment to Thailand, the U.S. can greatly strengthen its

position in Southeast Asia and hedge against China's growing diplomatic, economic, and military presence and intentions in the region. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/bg2609.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Impact or Illusion? Reintegration under the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Program. U.S. Institute of Peace. Deedee Derksen. September 2011.

The Afghan Peace and Reintegration Program (APRP) aims to reintegrate insurgents in return for security, jobs and other incentives, but has seen limited results, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%20106.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Leadership, Peace, Stability, and Prosperity in the DRC. U.S. Institute of Peace. Kitenge N'Gambwa. September 2011.

People living in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) should band together with Congolese diaspora to develop a vision for DRC's future that can drive governance reform. In the report, diaspora leaders share ideas for invigorating the economy, judiciary, health, education, and democracy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR_289.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

The Entrepreneurship Gender Gap: Women Entrepreneurs as Economic Drivers. Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Lesa Mitchell. September 28, 2011.

Women who are capable of starting growth companies that serve global markets may be the nation's secret weapon for achieving sustained economic growth. Research shows that startup companies - particularly high-growth startups - are the most fruitful source of new U.S. jobs and offer the economy's best hope for recovery. However, despite the fact that about 46 percent of the workforce and more than 50 percent of college students are female, and that women have risen to top positions in corporate and university hierarchies, they represent only about 35 percent of startup business owners. Their firms also tend to experience less growth and prosperity than do firms started by men. The paper explores the reasons behind lower business startup rates among women and proposes actions that would help to realize the promise of female entrepreneurs in escalating the economy. [Note: contains copyrighgted material].

http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/Growing_the_Economy_Women_Entrepreneurs.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/Gender_Gap_Infographics.pdf Infographic [PDF format, 1 page].

Testing Turkey's Influence. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Sinan Ulgen. September 28, 2011.

The EU's continuing troubles have greatly undermined its leverage with Turkey at a time when the country is becoming a more influential actor, says Ulgen. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://carnegieendowment.org/2011/09/28/testing-turkey-s-influence/5d7o [HTML format, various paging].

Trade Preferences for Developing Countries and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, Jeanne J. Grimmett. September 23, 2011.

Article I:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994) requires World Trade Organization (WTO) Members to grant most-favored-nation (MFN) treatment "immediately and unconditionally" to the like products of other Members with respect to tariffs and other trade-related measures. Programs such as the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), under which developed countries grant preferential tariff rates to developing country goods, are facially inconsistent with this obligation because they accord goods of some countries more favorable tariff treatment than that accorded to like goods of other WTO Members.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS22183.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

The Four Horsemen of Economics. YaleGlobal. Stewart Wallis. September 28, 2011.

Humans are not necessarily stuck with the unsustainable, unstable economic constructs they have created. Political systems can shape local and global economies, either deliberately or by default. Stewart Wallis urges nations to work in concert to address crises that promise to arise with greater frequency and severity, whether extreme weather events and devastated croplands or over-reliance on debt. Political leaders and citizens proceed along an economic path with four systemic problems, what Wallis calls the four U's, unsustainable, unfair, unstable and unhappy way of life. The New Economics Foundation aims to improve global quality of life with innovative solutions that challenge conventional wisdom, and a key goal is maximizing well-being, by finding and using measures that demonstrate true success or failure. The current course toward greater unsustainability and inequality is not only dangerous and reckless, but completely avoidable. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/four-horsemen-economics [HTML format, various paging].

Childhood Poverty Among Hispanics Sets Record, Leads Nation. Pew Hispanic Center. September 28, 2011.

The economic downturn that began in 2007 hit one fast-growing demographic group especially hard: Latino children. More Latino children are living in poverty -- 6.1 million in 2010 -- than children of any other racial or ethnic group. This marks the first time in U.S. history that the single largest group of poor children is not white. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/147.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Census Bureau: Flaws in Same-Sex Couple Data. Pew Social & Demographic Trends. September 27, 2011.

The Census Bureau says that more than one-in-four same-sex couples counted in the 2010 Census was likely an opposite-sex couple, and identified a confusing questionnaire as the likely culprit. The bureau released a new set of "preferred" same-sex counts. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewsocialtrends.org/2011/09/27/census-bureau-flaws-in-same-sex-couple-data/?src=prc-headline [HTML format, various paging].

Iraqi Refugees: Still There. Brookings Institution. Elizabeth Ferris. September 2011.

Millions of Iraqis have fled their communities as a result of violence and insecurity in the eight years since the U.S. invaded Iraq. Together with most of those displaced by the Saddam Hussein regime, these Iraqis live in uncertain conditions throughout the Middle East. The governments of the region have generally allowed them to remain but haven't recognized them as refugees nor given them formal residency rights. Not yet persuaded that it's safe to return to their country, they live in limbo. Some hope for resettlement to another country, some seek asylum in Europe. But most are just waiting. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees provides some assistance to them and host governments, but agrees with the refugees that the time is not right to promote their large-scale return. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/articles/2011/09_human_rights_ferris/09_human_right s_ferris.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Science Diplomacy for Nuclear Security. U.S. Institute of Peace. Micah D. Lowenthal. September 2011.

Nuclear security expert Micah Lowenthal calls on science diplomacy, which played a key role in promoting U.S.-Soviet cooperation, to renewed engagement on current issues: nonproliferation, countering nuclear terrorism, verification of nuclear treaties, and ballistic missile defense. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/SR_288.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

Women Cotton Farmers: Their Perceptions and Experiences with Transgenic Varieties. International Food Policy Research Institute. Patricia Zambrano et al. September 2011.

This paper explores gender differences in cotton cultivation and looks into the perceptions and experiences of women and men with transgenic varieties. With few exceptions, researchers in the area of impact evaluation of crop biotechnology have only marginally included gender considerations in their work. This exploratory pilot study was developed in order to incorporate gender into our quantitative evaluation work. This study used a participatory and descriptive approach that allowed us to listen to women and men farmers' perceptions and insights. The project was conducted in the main cotton-producing regions of Colombia where a handful of transgenic varieties have been in the market for the past six years. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01118.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

Palestinian Initiatives for 2011 at the United Nations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jim Zanotti and Marjorie Ann Browne. September 23, 2011.

Many Members of Congress are actively interested in the question of possible U.N. action on Palestinian statehood. Congress could try to influence U.S. policy and the choices of other actors through the authorization and appropriation of foreign assistance to the Palestinians, the United Nations, and Israel and through oversight of the Obama Administration's diplomatic efforts. Changes to aid levels may depend on congressional views of how maintaining or changing aid levels could affect U.S. leverage and credibility in future regional and global contexts.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/174250.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

Latin America and the Caribbean: Fact Sheet on Leaders and Elections. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Julissa Gomez-Granger and Mark P. Sullivan. September 21, 2011.

This fact sheet tracks the current heads of government in Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. It provides the dates of the last and next elections for the head of government and the national independence date for each country.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/174247.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Unauthorized Aliens Residing in the United States: Estimates Since 1986. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ruth Ellen Wasem. September 22, 2011.

Estimates derived from the March Supplement of the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS) indicate that the unauthorized resident alien population (commonly referred to as *illegal aliens*) rose from 3.2 million in 1986 to 11.2 million in 2010. Jeffrey Passel, a demographer with the Pew Hispanic Research Center, has been involved in making these estimations since he worked at the U.S. Bureau of the Census in the 1980s. The estimated number of unauthorized aliens had dropped to 1.9 million in 1988 following passage of a 1986 law that legalized several million unauthorized aliens. The estimates of unauthorized aliens peaked at an estimated 12.4 million in 2007. About 39% of unauthorized alien residents in 2010 were estimated to have entered the United States in 2000 or later. Similarly, the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) reported an estimated 10.8 million unauthorized alien residents as of January 2010, up from 8.5 million in January 2000.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/174245.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

Electronic Government: Performance Measures for Projects Aimed at Promoting Innovation and Transparency Can Be Improved. U.S. Government Accountability Office. September 23, 2011.

Congress enacted the Electronic Government (E-Gov) Act in 2002 to promote better use of the Internet and other information technologies (IT), thereby improving government services for citizens, internal government operations, and opportunities for citizen participation in government. Among other things, the act established the E-Gov Fund to support projects that expand the government's ability to carry out its activities electronically. The act also created the Office of Electronic Government within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The Administrator of this office is to assist the OMB Director in approving projects to be supported by the E-Gov Fund. The General Services Administration (GSA) is responsible for administering the fund and notifying Congress of how the funds are to be allocated to projects approved by OMB. GAO was asked to (1) identify and describe the projects supported by the E-Gov Fund, including the distribution of fiscal year 2010 funds among the projects and their expected benefits; and (2) for selected projects, identify their progress against goals.

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11775.pdf [PDF format, 101 pages].

A Blueprint for Moving Toward Sustainable Tropical Shrimp Trawl Fisheries. World Wildlife Fund. September 26, 2011.

Some 1.3 million t of tropical shrimp are caught annually throughout the world. An approximate estimate1 is that 419,000 trawlers from 65 countries catch shrimp, generating employment for around 900,000 fishers. On top of this, there are hundreds of thousands of coastal/artisanal fishers using a variety of fishing gears, including small trawls, trammel nets, bag nets, and seines. This group is responsible for catching less than 5 per cent of the total annual shrimp catch, but can have significant impacts on sustainability. Shrimp trawling is considered one of the most unselective and damaging fishing methods in the world. Bycatch of commercial and non-commercial species may significantly outweigh catches of target species. This, along with the impacts of bottom trawls on the benthic environment, can result in significant negative impacts on marine ecosystems. The blueprint presented in this report is generic and applicable to all TST

fisheries. In order for implementation to be successful, it should in all cases be reviewed by local stakeholders and amended as appropriate. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/all_publications/?201770/A-Blueprint-for-moving-toward-sustainable-tropical-shrimp-trawl-fisheries [HTML format with a link].

Putin's Presidential Return. Council on Foreign Relations. Stephen Sestanovich. September 27, 2011.

Over the weekend, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and President Dmitry Medvedev announced they plan to switch jobs next March, with Putin running for president and Medvedev becoming prime minister. Though Putin, who was president from 2000-2008, enjoys popularity in Russia, "many people see his return [to the presidency] as a step backwards," says Stephen Sestanovich. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/russian-fed/putins-presidential-return/p26028 [HTML format, various paging].

Improving Student Outcomes: Restoring America's Education Potential. Brookings Institution. Michael Greenstone and Adam Looney. The Hamilton Project, Brookings Institution. September 2011.

For decades, investments in public education have boosted U.S. productivity and earnings, forged a path out of poverty for many families, helped disadvantaged students narrow the learning gap with their peers, and developed a workforce that continues to be among the most productive and innovative on Earth. More recently, this engine of growth has lost momentum. While per-pupil spending has continued to rise, educational attainment and performance have stagnated over the last thirty years. Because workforce skills are closely linked to productivity and compensation, the stagnation in education has contributed to static or even declining earnings for many Americans. In this paper, The Hamilton Project provides a dual-track approach to improving future educational outcomes: 1) tackling structural barriers to unlock the largest gains in student achievement and 2) in the near term, implementing relatively simple cost-effective reforms that improve student performance. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/09_education_greenstone_looney_shevlin/092011 education_greenstone_looney_shevlin.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

The Power and Pitfalls of Education Incentives. The Hamilton Project, Brookings Institution, Bradley M. Allan and Roland Fryer. September 2011.

There is widespread agreement that America's school system is in desperate need of reform, but many educational interventions are ineffective, expensive, or difficult to implement. Recent incentive programs, however, demonstrate that well-designed rewards to students can improve achievement at relatively low costs. Fryer and Allan draw on school-based field experiments with student and teacher incentives to offer a series of guidelines for designing successful educational incentive programs. [

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/09_incentives_fryer_allen/092011_incentives_fryer_allen_paper.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

2011 Urban Mobility Report. Texas Transportation Institute and University Transportation Center for Mobility. September 27, 2011.

While traffic problems have stagnated along with the economy, an annual study suggests that too little progress is being made toward ensuring that the nation's transportation system will be able to keep up with job growth when the economy does return. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://tti.tamu.edu/documents/mobility-report-2011.pdf [PDF format, 57 pages].

China - Leader or Laggard on the Path to a Secure, Low-Carbon Energy Future? Center for Strategic & International Studies. Sarah O. Ladislaw and Jane Nakano. September 26, 2011.

There has been a great deal of talk about whether and how China will manage its need to provide enough energy to ensure continued economic growth while avoiding the local and global environmental impacts of its energy production and use. To listen to the political discourse, China is either a global leader on clean energy technologies and transformation or the largest source of emissions with serious, systemic local environmental degradation. How can it at once be a low-carbon leader and a laggard? [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110923_Ladislaw_ChinaLeaderLaggard_Web.pdf [PDF format, 54 pages].

Conventional Arms Transfers to Developing Nations, 2003-2010. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Richard F. Grimmett. September 22, 2011.

This report is prepared annually to provide Congress with official, unclassified, quantitative data on conventional arms transfers to developing nations by the U.S. and foreign countries for the preceding eight calendar years for use in its policy oversight functions. All agreement and delivery data in this report for the U.S. are government-to-government Foreign Military Sales (FMS) transactions. Similar data are provided on worldwide conventional arms transfers by all suppliers, but the principal focus is the level of arms transfers by major weapons suppliers to nations in the developing world. Developing nations continue to be the primary focus of foreign arms sales activity by weapons suppliers. During the years 2003-2010, the value of arms transfer agreements with developing nations comprised 72.9% of all such agreements worldwide. More recently, arms transfer agreements with developing nations constituted 78.9% of all such agreements globally from 2007-2010, and 76.2% of these agreements in 2010.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/R42017.pdf [PDF format, 89 pages].

How Americans Rate Their Diet Quality: An Increasingly Realistic Perspective. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Christian Gregory et al. September 23, 2011.

Over the last 20 years, awareness of diet-related health concerns has become widespread in the U.S. as obesity, along with its associated human and financial costs, has increased. To estimate how this awareness affects Americans' perceptions of their own diet quality over this period and the factors associated with self-assessed diet health, the report examines data from both the 1989-91 Continuing Survey of Food Intakes of Individuals and the 2005-08 Flexible Consumer Behavior Survey module of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. It finds, first, that Americans have become much less likely to rate their diets as "Excellent" or "Very Good" in terms of healthfulness, even though the healthfulness of the American diet has undergone little change over this period. Second, current self-ratings of diet are inversely related to the frequency of fastfood and food-away-from-home consumption and positively related to the frequency of sharing meals with family.

http://ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB83/EIB83.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

The Benefits and Limitations of Income Tax Reform. American Enterprise Institute. Alan D. Viard and Alex Brill. September 27, 2011.

A number of recent proposals have called for broadening the individual income tax base while lowering statutory income tax rates. Such proposals would eliminate or curtail various preferential income tax provisions and use some or all of the resulting revenue to lower statutory tax rates. Base broadening must be approached with caution because some base-broadening measures make the tax system less neutral, impeding economic efficiency. Also, income tax base broadening cannot eliminate, and may even reinforce, the income tax's central flaw--its penalty on saving, according to the Outlook. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/TPO-Sept-2011.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Putin's Return. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Matthew Rojansky. September 26, 2011.

Vladimir Putin plans to return as Russia's president after elections in March and could remain in the position until 2024. President Dmitri Medvedev is expected to swap positions with Putin and serve as Russia's next prime minister. In a Q&A, Matthew Rojansky analyzes Putin's return and what it means for Russia and its international relations. Rojansky argues that Putin's new term will largely bring a continuation of the status quo. While Putin's grip on power will arouse anxieties in the West, he will not undo the U.S.-Russia reset and, for now, this is largely good news for the West. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://carnegieendowment.org/2011/09/26/putin-s-return/58pb [HTML format, various paging].

After the Arab Spring - Part III. YaleGlobal. Dilip Hiro. September 26, 2011.

The Arab Spring has ushered in new attitudes throughout the Middle East and North Africa. series. In country after country, citizens have engaged in peaceful demonstrations, yearning for representative government that balances Islam with democracy and rejecting dictatorships that put foreign interests over that of citizens. In searching for a model of representational government, citizens need look no further than Turkey with its secular constitution, civilian-controlled military, growing economy and the popular Recep Tayyip Erdoğan administration, contends author Dilip Hiro. With vision and concern for fairness, Erdoğan has skillfully navigated what have long been political landmines for fellow NATO member, the United States. "Erdoğan has combined his backing for the Arab Spring with his advocacy for Palestine to be accorded the status of a sovereign state by the United Nations," Hiro writes. Increasingly isolated by the rapid change, Israel and the United States must strive for new partnerships in the region. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/after-arab-spring-%E2%80%93-part-iii [HTML format, various paging].

After the Arab Spring - Part II. YaleGlobal. Daniel Bethlehem. September 23, 2011.

Statehood for Palestine in name only won't ensure peace, equal footing with Israel and policies that serve the people living within those borders. "A balance of dignity between the parties is a necessary step towards a more durable accommodation," writes Daniel Bethlehem. With statehood designation for Palestine, international law would guide the Palestinian-Israeli relationship, providing "an equality, and a clarity, of law and of legal obligation that would apply to both sides." The status quo is unsustainable, and supported by many nations, statehood for Palestine is inevitable. Yet a reasonable process and responsibility are essential, too. If

Palestinian statehood promotes dialogue over conflict, security over vulnerability, peace over division, it will be welcomed by the world. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/after-arab-spring-part-ii [HTML format, various paging].

How People Learn About Their Local Community. Pew Research Center's Project for Excellence in Journalism. September 26, 2011.

Contrary to much of the conventional understanding of how people learn about their communities, Americans turn to a wide range of platforms to get local news and information, and where they turn varies considerably depending on the subject matter and their age, according to the survey. Most Americans, including more tech-savvy adults under age 40, also use a blend of both new and traditional sources to get their information. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.journalism.org/analysis_report/local_news [HTML format, various paging].

Removing Barriers to Economic Inclusion: Measuring Gender Parity in 141 Economies. The World Bank. September 2011.

The report aims to examine legal differentiations on the basis of gender in 141 of the world's economies. In order for men and women throughout the developing world to have access to an earned income and own property, effort in a broad range of areas, from security and infrastructure to education and health is required. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://wbl.worldbank.org/~/media/FPDKM/WBL/Documents/Reports/2012/Women-Business-and-the-Law-2012.pdf [PDF format, 167 pages].

The Global Exploration Roadmap. International Global Exploration Coordination Group. September 22, 2011.

NASA is releasing the initial version of a Global Exploration Roadmap (GER) developed by the International Space Exploration Coordination Group. This roadmap is the culmination of work by 12 space agencies, including NASA, during the past year to advance coordinated space exploration. The roadmap identifies two potential pathways: "Asteroid Next" and "Moon Next." Each pathway represents a mission scenario that covers a 25-year period with a logical sequence of robotic and human missions. Both pathways were deemed practical approaches to address common high-level exploration goals developed by the participating agencies, recognizing that individual preferences among them may vary.

http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/591067main_GER_2011_small_single.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

Nitrogen in Agricultural Systems: Implications for Conservation Policy. U.S. Department of Agiculture. Marc Ribaudo et al. September 22, 2011.

Nitrogen is an important agricultural input that is critical for crop production. However, the introduction of large amounts of nitrogen into the environment has a number of undesirable impacts on water, terrestrial, and atmospheric resources. The report explores the use of nitrogen in U.S. agriculture and assesses changes in nutrient management by farmers that may improve nitrogen use efficiency. It also reviews a number of policy approaches for improving nitrogen management and identifies issues affecting their potential performance. Findings reveal that about two-thirds of U.S. cropland is not meeting three criteria for good nitrogen management related to the rate, timing, and method of application. Several policy approaches, including financial incentives, nitrogen management as a condition of farm program eligibility, and

regulation, could induce farmers to improve their nitrogen management and reduce nitrogen losses to the environment.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR127/ERR127.pdf [PDF format, 89 pages].

State Perspectives on Insurance Exchanges: Implementing Health Reform in an Uncertain Environment. National Governors Association. September 16, 2011.

The three major components of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (ACA), insurance reform, Medicaid expansions, and the establishment of health insurance exchanges, are primarily the states' responsibilities to implement; together they impose a daunting workload. Because insurance exchanges must be wholly created in a very short time period, their implementation presents unique challenges. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/1109NGAEXCHANGESSUMMARY.PDF [PDF format, 7 pages].

Dropout Prevention Services and Programs in Public School Districts: 2010-11. National Center for Education Statistics. September 22, 2011.

This report provides national estimates about dropout prevention services and programs in public school districts. The estimates presented in this report are based on a district survey about dropout prevention services and programs offered by the district or by any of the schools in the district during the 2010-11 school year.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011037.pdf [PDF format, 66 pages].

Projections of Education Statistics to 2020. National Center for Education Statistics. William J. Hussar and Tabitha M. Bailey. September 20, 2011.

The publication provides projections for key education statistics. It includes statistics on enrollment, graduates, teachers, and expenditures in elementary and secondary schools, and enrollment and earned degrees conferred expenditures of degree-granting institutions. For the Nation, the tables, figures, and text contain data on enrollment, teachers, graduates, and expenditures for the past 14 years and projections to the year 2020. For the 50 States and the District of Columbia, the tables, figures, and text contain data on projections of public elementary and secondary enrollment and public high school graduates to the year 2020. In addition, the report includes a methodology section describing models and assumptions used to develop national and state-level projections.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011026.pdf [PDF format, 177 pages].

Now Is the Time to Fix Our Broken Infrastructure: American Jobs Act Will Put Millions to Work. Center for American Progress. Heather Boushey. September 22, 2011.

Investing in infrastructure creates jobs and yields lasting benefits for the economy, including increasing growth in the long run. Upgrading roads, bridges, and other basic infrastructure creates jobs now by putting people to work earning good, middle-class incomes, which expands the consumer base for businesses. These kinds of investments also pave the way for long-term economic growth by lowering the cost of doing business and making U.S. companies more competitive. The author believes that the American Jobs Act could provide it. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/09/aja_infrastructure.html [HTML format, various paging].

Rethinking Cybersecurity - A Comprehensive Approach. Center for Strategic & International Studies. James Andrew Lewis. September 20, 2011.

James A. Lewis gave a speech on September 12, 2011, at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in Tokyo titled "Rethinking Cybersecurity - A Comprehensive Approach." This is the transcript. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110920 Japan speech 2011.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Istanbul and Bonn Conferences: Building Blocks of the Afghan Transition Process. U.S. Institute of Peace. Hodei Sultan. September 2011.

The brief highlights two upcoming major conferences that will play a critical role in the future of Afghanistan. The Istanbul Conference slated for November 2, 2011 aims to bring to the discussion table issues relating to the transition in Afghanistan, including Afghan security, recruitment, training and equipment of Afghan security forces, as well as the reconciliation process. The conference will also focus on regional economic cooperation. The December "Bonn+10" Conference will convene more than 1,000 delegates from 90 nations, international organizations and the United Nations to discuss the transfer of responsibility for security to the Afghan government by 2014, international commitment to Afghanistan following this handover, and the political process vis-à-vis national reconciliation and the integration of former Taliban fighters. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%20105.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Diversity, Unity, and Nation Building in South Sudan. U.S. Institute of Peace. Jok Madut Jok. September 2011.

South Sudan's success as a nation depends on getting its many distinct ethnic groups to promote, teach, and celebrate a shared cultural heritage. In the report, Jok Madut Jok urges concrete steps toward creating a national identity. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/Diversity%20Unity%20and%20Nation%20Building%20in%20South%20Sudan%20(Jok).pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Regulating Medical Marijuana Dispensaries: An Overview with Preliminary Evidence of Their Impact on Crime, RAND Corporation, Mireille Jacobson et al. September 21, 2011.

The report provides an overview of state medical marijuana laws and preliminary findings on the relationship between medical marijuana dispensaries and local crime, based on results from an ongoing analysis in Los Angeles. For ten days before and after the June 2010 closure of over 70 percent of the 638 dispensaries then in operation, crime reports near closed dispensaries were compared with crime reports near those that remained open. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR987.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Making the Transition: From Middle-Income to Advanced Economies. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Alejandro Foxley and Fernando Sossdorf. September 21, 2011.

In order to for middle-income countries to successfully transition into advanced economies, their policymakers should look at the lessons learned by countries that successfully made the jump. Few middle-income countries have successfully transitioned into advanced economies in the past twenty years. As the world struggles with a new economic slowdown, middle-income countries should look at the lessons from the economies that successfully made the jump. The more successful countries in the bunch, particularly Finland and South Korea, set themselves apart from the rest by investing early in improving the quality of education and inducing high investment in research and development. By opening up to world trade and using tax incentives and access to subsidized credit, successful countries were able to attract foreign direct investment in high-technology sectors. And to allow for continued growth, Finland and South Korea were able to turn financial crises into opportunities to undertake much-needed economic reforms, this was only possible because there were broad political and social agreements on the essential elements for sustaining high growth rates. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/making_the_transition.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

After the Arab Spring - Part I. YaleGlobal. Gustav Ranis. September 21, 2011.

The Palestinian-Israeli pressure cooker of complex mix of interests and injustices has long threatened to explode, an issue ready-made for extremists of all stripes to needle leaders in Israel, the Palestine Authority or the United States. Since the Arab Spring swept old regimes from power, notably in Egypt, Muslims everywhere are emboldened to demand democratic institutions and full representation. The report explores the new contours of the Middle East rising out of the fiery spring. Gustav Ranis analyzes history of the conflict and the impact of the Arab Spring, including new challenges to Egypt's peace treaty with Israel. This is the backdrop to a Palestinian plan to seek recognition as a state from the UN during the General Assembly meeting, despite vehement opposition from Israel and the U.S. Frustration is escalating and the status quo is unsustainable, maintains Ranis. He argues that escalation of the conflict bound to occur from the UN move makes it imperative that the parties to the decades-old dispute, particularly the U.S., forcefully reject the extreme positions and get to work negotiating immediate agreement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/after-arab-spring-part-i [HTML format, various paging].

Education at a Glance 2011: OECD Indicators. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. September 13, 2011.

Across OECD countries, governments are having to work with shrinking public budgets while designing policies to make education more effective and responsive to growing demand. The report provides a broad array of comparable indicators on education systems and represents the consensus of professional thinking on how to measure the current state of education internationally. The indicators also show who participates in education, how much is spent on it, and how education systems operate. They also illustrate a wide range of educational outcomes, comparing, for example, student performance in key subjects and the impact of education on earnings and on adults' chances of employment. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/2/48631582.pdf [PDF format, 497 pages].

The Palestinians: Background and U.S. Relations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jim Zanotti. August 30, 2011.

The report provides an overview of current issues in U.S.-Palestinian relations. It also contains an overview of Palestinian society and politics and descriptions of key Palestinian individuals and

groups, chiefly the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the Palestinian Authority (PA), Fatah, Hamas, and the Palestinian refugee populaiton.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL34074.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

Growing U.S. Trade Deficit with China Cost 2.8 Million Jobs Between 2001 and 2010. Economic Policy Institute. Robert E. Scott. September 20, 2011.

The U.S.-China trade deficit has eliminated or displaced nearly 2.8 million U.S. jobs since 2001, according to the briefing. It finds that all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico suffered jobs lost or displaced as a result of the growing U.S.-China trade deficit. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.epi.org/files/2011/BriefingPaper323.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Climate Change and Migration Dynamics. Migration Policy Institute. Kathleen Newland. September 2011.

Climate change is a new driver of human migration, and is expected by many to dwarf all other factors in its impact. But while there is growing concern about climate change, far less agreement exists about what kinds of effects will be felt where, by whom, and precisely when. Human displacement is a result of a complex mix of factors, and some of the more commonly repeated predictions of the numbers of people who will be displaced by climate change are not informed by a full understanding of the dynamics of migration. The report analyzes the salient mechanisms of displacement: sea level rise, higher temperatures, disruption of water cycles, and increasing severity of storms. It also examines the ensuing migration responses and proposes recommendations to offset the severity of displacement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/climatechange-2011.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Where Political Extremists and Greedy Criminals Meet: A Comparative Study of Financial Crimes and Criminal Networks in the United States. National Criminal Justice Reference Service, U.S. Department of Justice. 2011.

The dissertation sheds light on the nexus between political extremism and profit-driven crime by conducting a systematic study of financial crime cases involving Islamic extremists, domestic farrightists, and their non-extremist accomplices prosecuted by federal courts in 2004.

https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/234524.pdf [PDF format, 464 pages].

School Choice, School Quality and Postsecondary Attainment. National Bureau of Economic Research. David J. Deming et al. September 19, 2011.

The report analyzes the impact of a public school choice lottery in Charlotte-Mecklenburg (CMS) on postsecondary attainment. It matches CMS administrative records to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), a nationwide database of college enrollment. Among applicants with low-quality neighborhood schools, lottery winners are more likely than lottery losers to graduate from high school, attend a four-year college, and earn a bachelor's degree. They are twice as likely to earn a degree from an elite university. The results suggest that school choice can improve students' longer-term life chances when they gain access to schools that are better on observed dimensions of quality. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nber.org/papers/w17438.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

Aiding Stability: Improving Foreign Assistance in Fragile States. Brookings Institution. Laurence Chandy. September 2011.

In the half-century leading up its birth, South Sudan was officially at war during three out of every four years. This created a cycle of conflict and instability that has fed distrust among its different ethnic groups and devastated its infrastructure and economy. What is an appropriate role for foreign aid in a country such as South Sudan? Fragile states pose a dilemma for the development community. These countries present not only some of the most serious and urgent development needs in the world, but the most difficult environments in which to deliver aid effectively. The paper outlines an agenda for making aid more effective in fragile states. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/reports/2011/09_fragile_states_chandy/Aid%20Global %20Views.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

The Global Health Regime. Council on Foreign Relations. September 21, 2011.

Despite medical advances and improvements in sanitation, water supply, nutrition, housing, and education, poor health continues to plague many countries in the world today. Infectious diseases kill approximately fifteen million people each year, and more than four million die from AIDS, malaria, or tuberculosis alone. A disproportionate share of this suffering occurs in developing countries. New threats, such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and recombinant flu strains, continue to arise. Meanwhile, health conditions traditional to wealthier nations, including tobacco consumption, obesity, diabetes, and other noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), are increasingly prevalent in the developing world. Global public health continues to be undermined by negative environmental, political, and economic factors from pollution to violent conflict to limited food production, and even a new, man-made threat--the specter of biological attacks. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/africa/global-health-regime/p22763 [HTML format, various paging].

Military Service Members and Veterans: A Profile of Those Enrolled in Undergraduate and Graduate Education in 2007-08. National Center for Education Statistics. September 20, 2011.

This Statistics in Brief uses nationally representative data to determine the representation of military students in undergraduate and graduate education and to examine how their demographic and enrollment characteristics compare with their nonmilitary peers.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011163.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

Illegal Internet Streaming of Copyrighted Content: Legislation in the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Brian T. Yeh. August 29, 2011.

Technological developments related to the Internet benefit consumers who want convenient ways to view and hear information and entertainment content on a variety of electronic devices. New technologies offer the potential to help copyright holders promote their creative works for artistic, educational, and commercial reasons. One of these new technologies enables the "streaming" of copyrighted content over the Internet from a website to an end user. There are many legitimate streaming websites such as Hulu, Netflix, YouTube, and HBO GO that offer on-demand streams of television programs, motion pictures, live sporting events, and sound recordings. However, streaming technology can also be misused for facilitating copyright infringement online. So-called "rogue" websites serve as an alternative to the authorized websites.

http://ipmall.info/hosted_resources/crs/R41975_110829.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Iraq and US Strategy in the Gulf. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. September 20, 2011.

During the coming months, the U.S. must reshape its strategy and force posture relative to Iraq and the Gulf States. It must take account of its withdrawal of most of its forces from Iraq, and whether or not it can give real meaning to the U.S.-Iraqi Strategic Framework Agreement, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/Iraq_and_US_Strategy_in_the_Gulf_14.9.11.pdf [PDF format, 33 pages].

All Immigration Is Local: Receiving Communities and Their Role in Successful Immigrant Integration. Center for American Progress. Michael Jones-Correa. September 20, 2011.

The process of immigrant integration and acceptance is often bumpy and messy, but a focus on receiving communities will smooth out that process and help make sure that immigrants and the native born can together fully take part in the American Dream. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/09/pdf/rci.pdf [PDF format, 53 pages].

The Future of U.S. Aid Reform: Rhetoric, Reality, and Recommendations. Center for Global Development. Connie Veillette. September 19, 2011.

The report takes a look at the Obama administration's FY2012 budget request and congressional reaction to gauge the potential for implementing foreign aid reforms as spelled out in the administration's policy documents. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1425457/ [HTML format with a link].

Improving Access to Medicines for Non-Communicable Diseases in the Developing World. RAND Corporation. Soeren Mattke et al. September 19, 2011.

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) account for the majority of global morbidity and mortality. In support of the UN General Assembly's goal to "set a new global agenda" on NCDs, this paper is a first step toward developing a policy research agenda for improving access to NCD medicines in developing countries. Looking at the full range of obstacles to access, the authors lay out the underlying causes and identify ideas for addressing them. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/occasional_papers/2011/RAND_OP349.pdf [PDF format, 86 pages].

China Plays Hard Ball. YaleGlobal. Fracois Godement. September 19, 2011.

European nations deep in debt are playing a dangerous game with China by teasing global markets. Neither borrowers nor would-be rescuers offer transparency about how much European debt China holds. Sensing that China is increasingly the only available willing buyer, leaders like Wen Jiabao allude to conditional lending, urging an end to anti-dumping charges or allowing asset sales that benefit Chinese trade. "If the eurozone's less directly challenged economies pocket windfall benefits of quasi-zero interest rates for their own budgets, while denying support to less well-endowed economies, the eurozone will crack up," warns China expert François

Godement. China could be considering deleveraging its EU bond purchases, and no doubt, nationalistic Chinese citizens would appreciate Europe's comeuppance. But the European Union is China's top customer and a swift move toward belt-tightening would hurt the Chinese economy. Its growing division is weakening the EU. Markets will take advantage of the disorganization, and China will be looking for opportunities. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/china-plays-hard-ball [HTML format, various paging].

Unraveling China's "String of Pearls" YaleGlobal. Ashley S. Townshend. September 16, 2011.

Reports that Pakistan invited China to construct a naval base in Gwadar have reignited concerns about Beijing's strategic ambitions in the Indian Ocean. For many China-watchers, the militarization of this commercial port, just 500 kilometers from the Strait of Hormuz, would confirm longstanding anxieties about Beijing's so-called "string of pearls" strategy. Yet there are few reasons to fear China's strategic weight in the Indian Ocean, explains Ashley S. Townshend. The ports are, as China contends, conventional shipping facilities to connect landlocked Chinese provinces with trade routes. Transforming the commercial ports into military bases would not only require extensive fortification but also convincing host countries to upend a geopolitical strategy balancing interests of China, the U.S. and India. The ports have long-term strategic value, but Townshend concludes that it's in the interest of all, including China, to minimize conflicts in the Indian Ocean and keep trade routes open. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/unraveling-chinas-string-pearls [HTML format, various paging].

Living Within Our Means and Investing in the Future: The President's Plan for Economic Growth and Deficit Reduction. Office of Management and Budget. September 2011.

"...The plan also realizes more than \$1 trillion in savings over the next 10 years from our draw downs in Afghanistan and Iraq. And the plan calls for the Congress to undertake comprehensive tax reform that lowers tax rates, closes loopholes, boosts job creation here at home, cuts the deficit by \$1.5 trillion, and observes the Buffett Rule, that people making more than \$1 million a year should not pay a smaller share of their income in taxes than middle-class families pay. To assist the Committee in its work, I also included specific tax loophole closers and measures to broaden the tax base. Together with the expiration of the high-income tax cuts from 2001 and 2003, these measures would be more than enough to reach this \$1.5 trillion target. They include cutting tax preferences for high-income households, eliminating tax breaks for oil and gas companies, closing the carried interest loophole for investment fund managers, and eliminating benefits for those who use corporate jets." -President Obama.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/jointcommitteereport.pdf [PDF format, 80 pages].

International Energy Outlook 2011. Energy Information Administration. September 19, 2011.

In the IEO2011 Reference case, which does not incorporate prospective legislation or policies that might affect energy markets, world marketed energy consumption grows by 53 percent from 2008 to 2035. Total world energy use rises from 505 quadrillion British thermal units (Btu) in 2008 to 619 quadrillion Btu in 2020 and 770 quadrillion Btu in 2035. Much of the growth in energy consumption occurs in countries outside the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (non-OECD nations), where demand is driven by strong long-term economic growth. Energy use in non-OECD nations increases by 85 percent in the Reference case, as compared with an increase of 18 percent for the OECD economies.

http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/ieo/pdf/0484%282011%29.pdf [PDF format, 301 pages].

World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development. The World Bank. September 18, 2011.

Gender equality matters in its own right but is also smart economics: Countries that create better opportunities and conditions for women and girls can raise productivity, improve outcomes for children, make institutions more representative, and advance development prospects for all, says the report. It details big strides in narrowing gender gaps but shows that disparities remain in many areas. The worst disparity is the rate at which girls and women die relative to men in developing countries: Globally, excess female mortality after birth and "missing" girls at birth account for an estimated 3.9 million women each year in low- and middle-income countries. About two-fifths are never born due to a preference for sons, a sixth die in early childhood, and over a third die in their reproductive years. These losses are growing in Sub-Saharan Africa, especially in countries hard-hit by HIV/AIDS. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR 2012/0,,contentMDK:22999750~pagePK:64167689~piPK:64167673~theSitePK:7778063,00.html Links to multilingual overviews and individual chapters [HTML format with links].

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2012/Resources/7778105-1299699968583/7786210-1315936222006/Complete-Report.pdf Fulltext Report in English [PDF format, 452 pages].

The White Population: 2010. U.S. Bureau of Census. September 29, 2011.

The white alone population grew by 6 percent from 211.5 million in 2000 to 223.6 million in 2010. In comparison, the total U.S. population grew by 9.7 percent over the decade from 281.4 million in 2000 to 308.7 million in 2010. While the white alone population increased numerically over the 10-year period, its percentage of the total population declined from 75 percent to 72 percent.

http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-05.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development. The World Bank. September 18, 2011.

Gender equality matters in its own right but is also smart economics: Countries that create better opportunities and conditions for women and girls can raise productivity, improve outcomes for children, make institutions more representative, and advance development prospects for all, says the report. It details big strides in narrowing gender gaps but shows that disparities remain in many areas. The worst disparity is the rate at which girls and women die relative to men in developing countries: Globally, excess female mortality after birth and "missing" girls at birth account for an estimated 3.9 million women each year in low- and middle-income countries. About two-fifths are never born due to a preference for sons, a sixth die in early childhood, and over a third die in their reproductive years. These losses are growing in Sub-Saharan Africa, especially in countries hard-hit by HIV/AIDS. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR 2012/0,,contentMDK:22999750~pagePK:64167689~piPK:64167673~theSitePK:7778063,00.html Links to multilingual overviews and individual chapters [HTML format with links].

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2012/Resources/7778105-1299699968583/7786210-1315936222006/Complete-Report.pdf Fulltext Report in English [PDF format, 452 pages].

Deep Water Horizon: In the Gulf of Mexico April 20-22, 2011. U.S. Coast Guard. September 14, 2011.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE)/U.S. Coast Guard Joint Investigation Team (JIT) released its final investigative report on the April 20, 2010, Deepwater Horizon explosion, loss of life, and resulting oil spill. The report is comprised of Volume I, covering the areas of investigation under the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard; Volume II, covering the areas of the investigation under BOEMRE jurisdiction; and a supplement to Volume I - the Final Action Memo from Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Bob Papp.

http://www.boemre.gov/pdfs/maps/JointMemo092011.pdf Cover Memo [PDF format, 2 pages].

http://dl.dropbox.com/u/11214318/DWHFINAL-volumel.pdf Volume I [PDF foramt, 288 pages].

http://www.boemre.gov/pdfs/maps/DWHFINAL.pdf Volume II [PDF format, 217 pages].

Dressed for Success? The Effect of School Uniforms on Student Achievement and Behavior. National Bureau of Economic Research. Elisabetta Gentile and Scott A. Imberman. August 29, 2011.

Uniform use in public schools is rising, but we know little about how they affect students. Using a unique dataset from a large urban school district in the southwest U.S., the report assesses how uniforms affect behavior, achievement and other outcomes. Each school in the district determines adoption independently, providing variation over schools and time. By including student and school fixed-effects we find evidence that uniform adoption improves attendance in secondary grades, while in elementary schools they generate large increases in teacher retention. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nber.org/papers/w17337.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

The Impact of Pay Increases on Nurses' Labour Market. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. James Buchan and Steven Black. August 30, 2011.

Nurses are usually the most numerous professionals in the healthcare workforce, and their contribution is a core component in attaining the policy objectives of improved productivity, quality of care and effectiveness in the health sector. The recent global economic crisis, and its related impacts on health sector funding and health labour market dynamics, has reinforced these policy priorities. This report reviews the impact of pay increases on nurses' labour market indicators. It presents background data on trends in the numbers of nurses and the remuneration of nurses in OECD countries; summarises the limited evidence base on pay and labour market behaviour; reports on four case study countries where a significant pay raise was awarded to at least some categories of nurses in recent years in response to perceived labour market challenges, the United Kingdom (UK), New Zealand, Finland and the Czech Republic, using a variety of indicators to illustrate impact; and concludes with key points for policy makers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.oecd-

ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kg6jwn16tjd.pdf?expires=1314800248&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=90E5D9985EF454FD6BA0DBCA6D6A664F [PDF format, 47 pages].

How to Accommodate 9 Billion and Save the Environment - Part II. YaleGlobal. Chandran Nair. August 30, 2011.

Those who care about the life of future generations recognize that today's unbridled economic growth is unsustainable, and the world must prepare for 9 billion inhabitants by 2050, contends Chandran Nair. Asia cannot afford to mimic the American lifestyle and would be wise to ignore

western encouragement for greater consumption in pursuit of economic growth, notes Nair. India and China each have triple the U.S. population. "Asian governments must immediately recognize that a bleak future lies ahead if Asians attempt to live out an aspiration to consume like Americans," he writes. Instead, Asian nations could step up as global leaders by emphasizing sustainability and challenging conventional thinking in the U.S. that disregards traditional lifestyles, prioritizes individual rights over the public good, and craves rather than penalizes excess. Resource management must be central to all policymaking, Nair writes, and requires that non-essential goods and services reflect true costs. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/accommodate-9-billion-save-environment-part-ii [HTML format, various paging].

Egypt in Transition. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jeremy M. Sharp. August 23, 2011.

On February 11, 2011, President Hosni Mubarak resigned from the presidency after 29 years in power. For 18 days, a popular peaceful uprising spread across Egypt and ultimately forced Mubarak to cede power to the military. How Egypt transitions to a more democratic system in the months ahead will have major implications for U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and for other countries in the region ruled by monarchs and dictators. The report provides a brief overview of the transition underway and information on U.S. foreign aid to Egypt.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33003.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

Nuclear Cooperation with Other Countries: A Primer. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Paul K. Kerr and Mary Beth Nikitin. August 11, 2011.

In order for the U.S. to engage in civilian nuclear cooperation with other states, it must conclude a framework agreement that meets specific requirements under section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act (AEA). The AEA also provides for exemptions to these requirements, export control licensing procedures, and criteria for terminating cooperation. Congressional review is required for section 123 agreements; the AEA establishes special parliamentary procedures by which Congress may act on a proposed agreement.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/RS22937.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Marital Events of Americans: 2009. U.S. Census Bureau. August 25, 2011.

Men and women in the South had higher rates of divorce in 2009 than in other regions of the country, 10.2 per 1,000 for men and 11.1 per 1,000 for women, according to a new report from the U.S. Census Bureau. The national divorce rate was 9.2 for men and 9.7 for women. By contrast, men and women in the Northeast had the lowest rates of divorce, 7.2 and 7.5

http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/acs-13.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Food Security Without Food Transfers?: A CGE Analysis for Ethiopia of the Different Food Security Impacts of Fertilizer Subsidies and Locally Sourced Food Transfers. International Food Policy Research Institute. A. Stefano Caria et al. Web posted on August 29, 2011.

Both availability and access issues underpin Ethiopia's food security challenges. The country is mostly dependent on drought-exposed, rain fed agriculture, and high transaction costs inhibit trade in staples. Most of the population lives in rural areas where poverty is widespread and livelihoods vulnerable to shocks and poverty traps. The paper looks at different approaches to

improve food security in Ethiopia. Specifically, it compares the impacts on the access and availability dimensions of policy-based fertilizer subsidies, targeting yield growth against one of additional food transfers, sourced from local markets. It also explores the possibility of combining the subsidies with a switch to local procurement of current food transfers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01106.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

The Seed and Agricultural Biotechnology Industries in India. International Food Policy Research Institute. David J. Spielman et al. August 29, 2011.

Since the late 1980s, technological advances and policy reforms have opened up new opportunities for growth in India's seed and agricultural biotechnology industries. Some public policymakers and corporate decisionmakers are confident that the private sector will help reverse these trends, arguing that the right combination of new technological solutions and progressive policy reforms will unleash a significant increase in private investment in productivity-enhancing products and services. The structure of India's seed and agbiotech industries, as well as the policies designed to support their growth, will be a significant determinant of this expected impact. This paper examines the structure of India's cereal seed and agbiotech industries, its potential effects on innovation and social welfare, and the policies that may improve both industry performance and the delivery of new technologies to resource-poor, small-scale farmers in India's cereal production systems. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01103.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

Syria and Iran's Power Calculus. Council on Foreign Relations. Karim Sadjadpour. August 30, 2011.

A new regime in Damascus could threaten Iran's support of Hezbollah and deprive Tehran of its one ally in the region, so it's counseling the Assad government to hang tough, says Iran expert Karim Sadjadpour. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/iran/syria-irans-power-calculus/p25719 [HTML format, various paging].

Afghanistan: Post-Taliban Governance, Security, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. August 22, 2011.

Stated U.S. policy is to ensure that Afghanistan will not again become a base for terrorist attacks against the United States. Much of the development to date has been accomplished with foreign, particularly U.S., help, although donor aid is likely to decline as the transition proceeds.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/171378.pdf [PDF format, 100 pages].

Cuba: Issues for the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark P. Sullivan. August 22, 2011.

Strong interest on Cuba is continuing in the 112th Congress. Three bills would take different approaches toward Cuba's offshore oil development: H.R. 372, S. 405, and H.R. 2047. Two initiatives would discontinue Radio and TV Marti broadcasts to Cuba: S. 476 and H.R. 1317. One resolution would call for the return of U.S. fugitives in Cuba.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/171377.pdf [PDF format, 68 pages].

China-Latin America Military Engagement: Good Will, Good Business, and Strategic Position. Stratetic Studies Institute. R. Evan Ellis. August 25, 2011.

The monograph examines Chinese military engagement with Latin America, finding that the level of such activity is higher than is generally recognized, and has expanded in important ways, with high-level trips by Latin American defense and security personnel, officer exchange programs, growing arms sales, military-relevant space, aviation, and telecommunications collaboration, and a small but important physical presence in the region.

http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=1077 [HTML format with a link to 75 page PDF file].

Be Wary of North Korea's Charm Offensive. The Heritage Foundation. Bruce Klingner. August 29, 2011.

Pyongyang is driven to its latest iteration of outreach by economic necessities that it perceives can best be fulfilled through diplomatic means. North Korea's quest for food aid and economic benefits will moderate the regime's behavior for the near term. Failure to achieve those objectives, however, will lead Pyongyang to resort to provocative actions once again. Therefore, even as the U.S. remains open to diplomacy, it must retain sufficient defenses against the multifaceted North Korean security threat. The Obama Administration should affirm an unequivocal commitment to defending Asian allies by maintaining the threefold U.S. promise of extended deterrence comprised of forward-deployed conventional forces, missile defense, and the nuclear umbrella, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://thf_media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/wm3344.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

China's New Balkan Strategy. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Loic Poulain. August 29, 2011.

Communist China did not assume a direct role in the volatile Balkan region until the late 1970s. Despite robust cooperation with Albania, mainly built upon a shared opposition to Soviet claims of world communist leadership, it was not until the summer of 1978 that Beijing articulated a coherent policy to deal with Southeastern Europe. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/publication/chinas-new-balkan-strategy [HTML format, various paging].

Assessing Implementation of the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Kevin Kallmyer. Web posted August 26, 2011.

The report assesses what concrete steps the United States has taken since the Nuclear Posture Review's release to move the world closer to a world without nuclear weapons while maintaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear arsenal. It looks specifically at the five core objectives of the NPR and juxtaposes policies prescribed to fulfill these objectives with those things that have actually been done. The report therefore serves as a reference for nuclear policy analysts to track progress in implementing NPR policy recommendations over the past year. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110826_NPR_Imp.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

Public Campaign Financing in California: A Model Law for 21st Century Reform. Center for Governmental Studies. August 2011.

The Center for Governmental Studies (CGS) recommends that California adopt a comprehensive new approach to the way state candidates raise funds to conduct their campaigns. Its study urges replacing larger, private campaign contributors with small campaign donors and public campaign financing. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgs.org/images/publications/cgs_ca_cf_model_law.pdf [PDF format, 53 pages].

Not Doing Enough: Unnecessary Sickness and Death from Cholera in Haiti. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Jake Johnston and Keane Bhatt. August 2011.

Cholera is both a preventable and easily cured disease, yet in July, nine months after it was inadvertently introduced into Haiti by UN troops, a Haitian was infected almost every minute, and 375 had died over the course of the month. In October 2010, the V. cholerae bacterium spread through a vulnerable population that had not been exposed to the pathogen in over a century. It has thus far afflicted 420,000 people and killed 6,000, making it the most catastrophic epidemic the hemisphere has seen in decades. The report looks at the reduction in cholera treatment initiatives prior to cholera's recent, predictable upsurge, and argues that international financial institutions, NGOs, and donor countries should use more of their substantial resources, especially undisbursed or unspent funds that they have already pledged or committed to Haiti, to redouble their efforts to prevent unnecessary sickness and death. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/not-doing-enough-2011-08.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

Private School Chains in Chile: Do Better Schools Scale Up? Cato Institute. Gregory Elacqua et al. August 16, 2011.

There is a persistent debate over the role of scale of operations in education. Some argue that school franchises offer educational services more effectively than do small independent schools. Skeptics counter that large, centralized operations create hard-to-manage bureaucracies and foster diseconomies of scale and that small schools are more effective at promoting higher-quality education. The answer to this question has profound implications for U.S. education policy, because reliably scaling up the best schools has proven to be a particularly difficult problem, according to the analysis. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/PA682.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

What Drives Gas Prices: Cartels, Speculators, or Supply and Demand? American Enterprise Institute Outlook. Kenneth P. Green. August 26, 2011.

High gas prices are inducing consumers to tighten their belts and politicians to call for taxes on oil companies. The Outlook explores possible causes of oil price fluctuation and explains how policymakers can help lower gasoline prices. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/EEO-2011-08-No-3-g.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Labor Force Characteristics by Race and Ethnicity, 2010. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. August 2011.

Unemployment rates among the major race and ethnicity groups remained high in 2010 as the U.S. economy continued to slowly recover from the 2007- 2009 recession. The jobless rates for Blacks (16.0 percent), Hispanics (12.5 percent), Whites (8.7 percent), and Asians (7.5 percent) were much higher than their prerecession levels. The report describes the labor force characteristics and earnings patterns among the major race and ethnicity groups and provides more detailed data through a set of supporting tables. These data are obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of 60,000 households that is a rich source of information on the labor force.

http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsrace2010.pdf [PDF format, 53 pages].

Transforming the Rural South: A Roadmap to Improving Rural Education. State Collaboration on Reforming Education. August 2011.

The report outlines specific recommendations to improve public education in rural communities in the South. The recommendations are based on research, best practices, and voices from rural communities across Tennessee and throughout the Southeast. The report, released jointly with the Ayers Foundation, Niswonger Foundation, Rural School and Community Trust, and the Tennessee School Boards Association, follows the Southeast Regional Rural Education Summit, which was held in Nashville on July 19-20, 2011. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.tnscore.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/SCORE-Rural-Education-Roadmap.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

The European Union: Foreign and Security Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Derek E. Mix. August 15, 2011.

The United States often looks to Europe as its partner of choice in addressing important global challenges. Given the extent of the transatlantic relationship, congressional foreign policy activities and interests frequently involve Europe. The relationship between the United States and the European Union (EU) has become increasingly significant in recent years, and it is likely to grow even more important. In this context, Members of Congress often have an interest in understanding the complexities of EU policy making, assessing the compatibility and effectiveness of U.S. and EU policy approaches, or exploring the long-term implications of changing transatlantic dynamics.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41959.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

America Reaches Its Demographic Tipping Point. Brookings Institution. William H. Frey. August 26, 2011.

The latest wave of 2010 Census data, released this week, confirms what earlier surveys have strongly hinted: virtually half of recent births in the U.S. are minorities. We are becoming a more globalized nation than most Americans have experienced in their lifetimes. The great demographic change has potential long term benefits for our population growth in terms of our economic competitiveness in the international marketplace. But these changes, coming so quickly and evolving from the "bottom up" of our age structure, may exacerbate existing cultural generation gaps, as older, largely white generations may be slow to recognize the promise of this change, according to the author. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0826_census_race_frey.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

On the Doorstep of the Information Age: Recent Adoption of Precision Agriculture. U.S. Department of Agriculture. David Schimmelpfennig and Robert Ebel. August 24, 2011.

The adoption of precision agriculture, which encompasses a suite of farm-level information technologies, can improve the efficiency of input use and reduce environmental harm from the overapplication of inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides. Still, the adoption of precision agricultural technologies and practices has been less rapid than envisioned a decade ago. Using Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) data collected over the past 10 years, this report examines trends in the adoption of four key information technologies, yield monitors, variable-rate application technologies, guidance systems, and GPS maps, in the production of major field crops. While yield monitoring is now used on over 40 percent of U.S. grain crop acres, very few producers have adopted GPS maps or variable-rate input application technologies.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB80/EIB80.pdf [PDF format, 31 pages].

Trade, the Expanding Mexican Beef Industry, and Feedlot and Stocker Cattle Production in Mexico. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Derrell S. Peel et al. August 22, 2011.

This report characterizes Mexican feeder-calf and fed cattle production systems in the context of the imports of Mexican feeder cattle into the United States. The increase in cattle feeding in Mexico will increasingly affect U.S. feeder cattle imports and U.S. beef exports to Mexico in ambiguous ways as Mexican population and incomes increase. Cattle production also depends on geo-climatic factors, disease and pest challenges, feeding systems, and feeder cattle export patterns.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/LDP/2011/08Aug/LDPM20601/ldpm20601.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

65% of Online Adults Use Social Networking Sites. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden and Kathryn Zickuhr. August 26, 2011.

Fully 65% of adult internet users now say they use a social networking site like MySpace, Facebook or LinkedIn, up from 61% one year ago. This marks the first time in Pew Internet surveys that 50% of all adults use social networking sites. Women maintain their foothold on social networking site use, and older Americans are still coming aboard. Most users describe their experiences in positive terms. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP-SNS-Update-2011.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Economics and Emigration: Trillion-dollar Bills on the Sidewalk? Center for Global Development. Michael Clemens. August 18, 2011.

Many people born in low-income countries would like to leave those countries, but barriers prevent their emigration. Those barriers, according to economists' best estimates to date, cost the world economy much more than all remaining barriers to the international movement of goods and capital combined. Yet economists spend much more time studying the movement of goods and capital, and when they study migration at all, they focus on the effects of immigration on nonmigrants in destination countries. Michael Clemens investigates why this is the case and sketches a four-point research agenda on the effects of emigration. Barriers to emigration, he writes, deserve a research priority that is commensurate with their likely colossal economic effects. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1425376/ [HTML format with links].

Student Reports of Bullying and Cyber-Bullying: Results From the 2009 School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey. National Center for Education Statistics. Jill DeVoe and Christina Murphy. August 22, 2011.

These Web Tables use data from the 2009 School Crime Supplement (SCS) to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to show the relationship between bullying and cyber-bullying victimization and other variables of interest such as the reported presence of gangs, guns, drugs, and alcohol at school; select school security measures; student criminal victimization; and personal fear, avoidance behaviors, fighting, and weapon-carrying at school.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011336.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

Attitudes Towards the War on Terror and the War in Afghanistan: A Ten-Year Review. American Enterprise Institute. Karlyn Bowman and Andrew Rugg. August 25, 2011.

Ten years after 9/11, Americans fear there will be another attack. They also believe America is safer due to the government's efforts and that the initial decision to send troops to Iraq was the right one. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/Attitudes-Towards-the-War-on-Terror-and-the-War-in-Afghanistan-August-2011.pdf [PDF format, 233 pages].

Annual Report to Congress: Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2011. Office of the Secretary of Defense, U.S. Department of Defense. August 2011.

"China's rise as a major international actor is likely to stand out as a defining feature of the strategic landscape of the early 21st century. Sustained economic development has raised the standard of living for China's citizens and elevated China's international profile. This development, coupled with an expanding science and technology base, has also facilitated a comprehensive and ongoing military modernization program. The U.S. welcomes a strong, prosperous, and successful China that reinforces international rules and norms and enhances security and peace both regionally and globally...Over the past decade, China's military has benefitted from robust investment in modern hardware and technology. Many modern systems have reached maturity and others will become operational in the next few years. Following this period of ambitious acquisition, the decade from 2011 through 2020 will prove critical to the PLA as it attempts to integrate many new and complex platforms, and to adopt modern operational concepts, including joint operations and network-centric warfare."

http://defense.gov/pubs/pdfs/2011_CMPR_Final.pdf [PDF format, 94 pages].

Adverse Effects of Vaccines: Evidence and Causality. Institute of Medicine. August 25, 2011.

Immunizations are a cornerstone of the nation's efforts to protect people from a host of infectious diseases. Though generally very rare or very minor, there are side effects, or "adverse effects," associated with some vaccines. The IOM reviewed a list of adverse events associated with eight vaccines to evaluate the scientific evidence about the event-vaccine relationship. Using epidemiologic and mechanistic evidence, the committee developed 158 causality conclusions, assigning each relationship between a vaccine and an adverse health problem to one of four causation categories. Overall, the IOM committee concludes that few health problems are caused by or clearly associated with vaccines. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2011/Adverse-Effects-of-Vaccines-Evidence-and-Causality.aspx [HTML format with links].

How to Accommodate 9 Billion and Save the Environment - Part I. YaleGlobal. Yvo De Boer. August 25, 2011.

Crises anticipated from climate change won't wait for political action, according to the author. Change and global advisor on the issue, describes distrust among nations that led to the failure of the Copenhagen summit. In a highly interconnected world with discussions stretching over decades, small adjustments in energy policies or carbon emissions create winners and losers. Maneuvering for competitive advantage is so intense that setting agendas for talks has evolved into a long process; developed countries refuse to accept terms approved by previous conventions, and developing nations hedge on monitoring, reporting and verification. De Boer concludes, that "the long and bumpy road of climate negotiations is littered with broken promises" and setting off on the path of sustainable development entails hard choices. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/accommodate-9-billion-save-environment-part-i [HTML format, various paging].

Less-Educated Continue to Lose Jobs in Recovery-Even in Low-Wage Industries. Urban Institute. Pamela J. Loprest and Austin Nichols. August 24, 2011.

In the sluggish recovery, less-educated workers, especially those with a high school degree or less, continue to lose jobs at a substantial rate. This factsheet presents employment changes in the recession and recovery by skill level and industry showing that those with less than a high school degree were hit hardest, even in low wage industries. Gains in the recovery have been concentrated among workers with a college education. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412382-Less-Educated-Lose-Jobs-in-Recovery.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

Global Natural Gas Potential. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. August 24, 2011.

With world demand for energy growing, natural gas is increasingly seen as a more environmentally friendly option to coal, an alternative to oil and nuclear, and a more mature technology than alternative energy sources such as solar and wind. While coal is cheap and abundant, it is a major pollutant, particularly of carbon dioxide. Low-emission nuclear power is relatively cheap to operate, but it has become the subject of renewed safety concerns in the wake of the 2011 nuclear accident at the Fukushima plant in Japan. And oil prices and production remain volatile, placing consuming countries reliant on it under considerable economic strain. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/energy/global-natural-gas-potential/p17946 [HTML format, various paging].

Energy Development and Water Use: Impacts of Potential Oil Shale Development on Water Resources. U.S. Government Accountability Office. August 24, 2011.

In GAO's October report, it found that oil shale development could have significant impacts on the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources, but the magnitude of these impacts is unknown. For example, it is not possible to quantify impacts on water resources with reasonable certainty because it is not yet possible to predict how large an oil shale industry may develop. GAO reports that there is a lack of comprehensive data on the condition of surface water and

groundwater and their interaction, which limits efforts to monitor and mitigate the future impacts of oil shale development. Currently DOE funds most of the research related to oil shale and water resources, including research on water rights, water needs, and the impacts of oil shale development on water quality. Interior also performs limited research on characterizing surface and groundwater resources in oil shale areas and is planning some limited monitoring of water resources.

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11929t.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

Globalizing Insurgency in Somalia. YaleGlobal. Christopher Anzalone. August 23, 2011.

The Somali Al Qaeda-linked insurgent movement al-Shabab has ruled most of southern and central Somalia, including the capital city of Mogadishu, since mid-2008. Originating as the most radical wing of the military arm of the Islamic Courts Union coalition, the movement delivered relative law and order and peace to Somalia in 2006. Since then, al-Shabab has moved ideologically closer to the transnational Sunni jihadi trend exemplified by Al Qaeda. In need of fighters, al-Shabab has recruited members of Somali diaspora communities in North America, Europe, East Africa, the Arab world, and Australia as well as non-Somali Muslims, explains Christopher Anzalone. With severe drought gripping the entire regions, tens of thousands of Somalis stream toward the southern border, both official and makeshift refugee camps. Al-Shabab's relief efforts are inadequate and old grudges with some international food programs add to an overwhelming crisis. But recruitment from the Somali diaspora continues. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/globalizing-insurgency-somalia [HTML format, various paging].

China and India, 2025: A Comparative Assessment. RAND Corporation. Charles Wolf, Jr. et al. August 22, 2011.

China and India, the world's two most populous countries, will exercise increasing influence in international affairs in the coming decades, and each country's role on the world stage will be affected by the progress that it makes and by the competition and cooperation that develop between them. The study focuses on the progress China and India seem likely to achieve from 2010 through 2025 in four domains: demography, macroeconomics, science and technology, and defense spending and procurement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2011/RAND_MG1009.pdf [PDF format, 171 pages].

International Bloggers and Internet Control. Berkman Center for Internet & Society. Hal Roberts et al. August 2011.

The Internet is an increasingly contested space, particularly in countries with repressive governments. Infringements on Internet freedom, particularly through Internet filtering and surveillance, have inspired activists and technologists to develop technological countermeasures, most notably circumvention tools to defeat Internet filters and anonymity tools to help protect user privacy and avoid online surveillance efforts. The widely heralded role of online activism in the Arab spring and the increasing incidence of Internet filtering around the world have spurred greater interest in supporting the development and dissemination of these tools as a means to foster greater freedom of expression online and strengthen the hand of activists demanding political reform, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/sites/cyber.law.harvard.edu/files/International_Bloggers_and_Internet Control 0.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

The U.S. Postal Service: Common Questions About Post Office Closures. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kevin R. Kosar. August 4, 2011.

In late July 2011, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) announced it was considering the closure of 3,652 retail postal facilities. These are not the only USPS facilities that might discontinue operations. An additional 728 retail postal facilities are being considered for closure under a 2009 USPS initiative, for a total of 4,380 USPS retail facilities. Four bills in the 112th Congress carry provisions that address post offices and the public's access to retail postal services--H.R. 2309, H.R. 2692, S. 353, and S. 1010. The report addresses common questions about the closure of post offices. Questions answered include (1) What is a post office? (2) How many post offices are there? (3) How many post offices might the USPS close? (4) What authority does the USPS have to close post offices? (5) What is the current post office closure process? (6) When might the post office closure process begin? (7) How many USPS employees may lose their jobs? and (8) What current legislation carries provisions related to post offices?

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41950.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Nigeria. U.S. Energy Information Administration. August 24, 2011.

Nigeria's hydrocarbon resources are the mainstay of the country's economy but development of the oil and natural gas sectors is often constrained by instability in the Niger Delta. Oil and natural gas investments are currently on hold pending the outcome of the Petroleum Industry Bill.

http://www.eia.gov/EMEU/cabs/Nigeria/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Air Conditioning in Nearly 100 Million U.S. Homes. U.S. Energy Information Administration. Released August 19, 2011.

Except in the temperate climate regions along the West coast, air conditioners (AC) are now standard equipment in most U.S. homes. As recently as 1993, only 68% of all occupied housing units had AC. The latest results from the 2009 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) show that 87 percent of U.S. households are now equipped with AC. This growth occurred among all housing types and in every Census region. Wider use has coincided with much improved energy efficiency standards for AC equipment, a population shift to hotter and more humid regions, and a housing boom during which average housing sizes increased.

http://www.eia.gov/consumption/residential/reports/air_conditioning09.cfm [HTML format, various paging].

Country Analysis Briefs: Syria. U.S. Energy Information Administration. August 22, 2011.

Syria is the only relatively significant crude oil producing country in the Eastern Mediterranean region, which includes Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza. Syria produced about 400,000 barrels per day (bbl/d) of crude and other petroleum liquids in 2010. While almost all of its oil is exported to Europe, Syria's natural gas is used in reinjection for enhanced oil recovery and for domestic electricity generation. Although Syria produces relatively modest quantities of oil and gas, its location is strategic in terms of regional security and prospective energy transit routes. Regional integration in the energy sector is expected to increase as a result ongoing plans for the expansion of the regional oil and gas pipeline networks connecting Syria with neighboring countries Turkey, Iraq, and Iran.

http://www.eia.gov/EMEU/cabs/Syria/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Biodiversity Conservation & Sustainable Livelihoods. World Wildlife Fund. August 16, 2011.

The Langtang National Park & Buffer Zone Area Support Project (LNPBZ SP) works to fulfill the Sacred Himalayan Landscape's vision of preserving water resource, forest, pasture land, land and flora and fauna through integrated management, enhancing livelihood opportunities for local people, and the conservation of cultural diversity. The Project has been carrying forest conservation and management, species conservation, livelihood and sustainable community development, education and capacity building, and publicity activities since 2006. The three-year project of LNPBZ SP under Sacred Himalayan Landscape (SHL) has already been completed. The study portrays the project's synchronization and partnership with like-minded institutions and individuals on issues of biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/all_publications/?201318/BIODIVERSITY-CONSERVATION---SUSTAINABLE-LIVELIHOODS [HTML format with links].

Energy in Food. Atlantic Council. Boyko Nitzov. August 16, 2011.

The brief surveys current concerns about the large amounts of energy needed to supply food and explores common concepts, perceptions and myths. It focuses on highlighting the positive role which advanced energy technology and its use can play throughout the food supply chain, and the importance of informed policies based on free markets and competition when dealing with the energy-food relationship. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/081611_ACUS_EnergyFood.PDF [PDF format, 5 pages].

Strengthening Governance of Social Safety Nets in East Asia. The World Bank. Sara Giannozzi and Asmeen Khan. August 2011.

Several East Asian countries, in the aftermath of the global financial crisis, are considering an expansion of their social safety net programs. In many cases, existing delivery mechanisms for social assistance in the region tend to be basic, in line with the small size of programs. In a context of coverage expansion and proliferation of new programs, the risk of creating increasingly complex systems characterized by cross-incentives is high. Lack of coordination, ambiguous criteria for identifying and selecting beneficiaries, low administrative capacity, lack of transparency and limited beneficiary participation pose risks for program effectiveness and can decrease accountability. Good governance can improve program outcomes through effective program coordination, stronger accountability arrangements, provider incentives and greater transparency and participation. The paper proposes an analytical framework to systematically identify governance risks and constraints which, if removed, could improve the outcomes of modern social assistance programs. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/08/18/000333037_20110 818235353/Rendered/PDF/639300WP0Gover00Box0361533B0PUBLICO.pdf [PDF format, 66pages].

Impacts of Higher Energy Prices on Agriculture and Rural Economies. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Ronald Sands and Paul Westcott. August 18, 2011.

Agricultural production is sensitive to changes in energy prices, either through energy consumed directly or through energy-related inputs such as fertilizer. A number of factors can affect energy prices faced by U.S. farmers and ranchers, including developments in the oil and natural gas markets, and energy taxes or subsidies. Climate change policies could also affect energy prices as a result of taxes on emissions, regulated emission limits, or the institution of a market for emission reduction credits. The report reviews the importance of energy in the agricultural sector and report the results of a case study on the economic implications for the farm sector of energy price increases that would arise from plausible, constructed greenhouse-gas-emission reduction scenarios.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR123/ERR123.pdf [PDF format, 56 pages].

Characteristics of Low-Income Single Mothers Disconnected from Work and Public Assistance. Urban Institute. Pamela J. Loprest and Austin Nichols. August 17, 2011.

Families headed by low-income single mothers who are not working or receiving public cash benefits, "disconnected families," are among the most vulnerable in our society. This fact sheet shows that the number of families in this situation is increasing over time. It also describes their income, receipt of noncash benefits like housing and food assistance, living arrangements, and characteristics that may impede work. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412375-Low-Income-Single-Mothers-Disconnected-from-Work.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Nuclear Deterrence in Europe: Russian Approaches to a New Environment and Implications for the United States. RAND Corporation. James T. Quinlivan and Olga Oliker. August 18, 2011.

Through a variety of policies and actions, and most recently in a new military doctrine adopted in February 2010, Russia has indicated the types of situations and threats that might cause it to resort to using nuclear weapons. This volume examines Russia's evolving framework for nuclear deterrence and its implications for U.S. military operations in Europe. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2011/RAND_MG1075.pdf [PDF format, 111 pages].

Transit Access and Zero-Vehicle Households. Brookings Institution. Adie Tomer and Robert Puentes. August 18, 2011.

Millions of zero-vehicle households live in areas well served by transit. Yet hundreds of thousands of zero-vehicle households live out of transit's reach, particularly in the South and in the suburbs. And those with transit access still cannot reach a majority of jobs in metro areas within 90 minutes. Based on these trends, leaders must recognize these households' unique mobility needs and aim to improve job accessibility through sound policy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0818_transportation_tomer/0818_transportation_tomer.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Fire Death Rate Trends: An International Perspective. U.S. Fire Administration. Web posted August 17, 2011.

The report examines the nature of the U.S. fire death problem and compares it to other industrialized nations. The report is developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center. The analyses in the report reveal the magnitude of the fire death problem; trends in overall rates and differences between the countries are also explored. The report is part of the Topical Fire Report Series and is based on fire death data from the World Fire Statistics Centre and U.N. Demographic Yearbook population estimate data.

http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v12i8.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Shifts in U.S. Merchandise Trade 2010. U.S. International Trade Commission. August 15, 2011.

Shifts in U.S. Merchandise Trade 2010, an annual compendium of data and analysis examining changes in trade with key U.S. partners and in important U.S. industries, was released today by the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC). The USITC, an independent, nonpartisan, factfinding federal agency, releases the information in a web-based format that provides details and reasons for key shifts in trade and that can be searched by country or industry group and subgroup.

http://www.usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4245.pdf [PDF format, 296 pages].

Public Perceptions on Transportation Characteristics of Livable Communities: The 2009 Omnibus Household Survey. U.S. Department of Transportation. Jenny Guarino and Pheny Weidman. July 15, 2011.

The report presents the findings of a 2009 survey asking participants the importance of different transportation features for their communities. The most important of the eight characteristics defined in the survey, supported by 94 percent of respondents, was major roads or highways, followed closely by adequate downtown parking, pedestrian-friendly downtown streets, safe sidewalks, and easy access to airports. Reliable long-distance bus or rail transportation, bike lanes, and local transit were found to be important by over two-thirds of respondents. BTS surveyed about 1,000 households for this report.

http://www.bts.gov/publications/special_reports_and_issue_briefs/special_report/2011_07_12/pdf /entire.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Electric Energy Storage. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. August 2011.

Electric energy storage (EES) technology has the potential to facilitate the large-scale deployment of variable renewable electricity generation, such as wind and solar power, which is an important option for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the electric power sector. Wind and solar power emit no carbon dioxide (CO₂) during electricity generation but are also variable or intermittent electricity sources. Wind power only produces electricity when the wind is blowing, and solar power only when the sun is shining, thus the output of these sources varies with wind speeds and sunshine intensity. Since operators of the electrical grid must constantly match electricity supply and demand, this makes variable renewable resources more challenging to incorporate into the electrical grid than traditional baseload (e.g., coal and nuclear) and dispatchable (e.g., natural gas) generation technologies, which can be scheduled to produce power in specific amounts at specific times. Electrical grid operators have several options for managing the variability of electricity supply introduced by large amounts of renewable generation, one of which is EES. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/ElectricEnergyStorage 0.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

The Eurozone Fights for Survival - Part II. YaleGlobal. Joergen Oerstroem Moeller. August 18, 2011.

Lenders are in the habit of putting profits over borrowers' interests. Many players in the financial markets - the credit markets, banks, economists and analysts - took little notice as small eurozone economies like Greece amassed huge debts based on fiscal records of strong partners like Germany. Massive lending led to crisis, and an abrupt halt, hiking interest rates, aggravated the difficulties. Pinpointing responsibility for the crisis could avoid repeating such patterns in the future - in Europe, the U.S. or elsewhere, according to the report. Joergen Oerstroem Moeller explores Europe's ongoing attempts to restore fiscal order and preserve the eurozone. "The crisis will break or make the future of European integration," Moeller concludes. Moeller predicts that Europe can withstand the challenges and the crisis will usher in a new wave of integration. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/eurozone-fights-survival-part-ii [HTML format, various paging].

The Eurozone Fights for Survival - Part I. YaleGlobal. Francois Godement. August 16, 2011.

The debt crisis rocking Greece, Portugal or Italy not only threatens the stability of the eurozone, but also raises serious questions about the region's relations with the world. The author, Godement, points out that minimal attention is directed at Europe's financial relationship with China, which might be poised to exploit the Union's difficulties. One reason for little attention to China: European statistics are unavailable about who holds what public debt, and China is secretive, too. China treads into Europe with caution, partnering with individual nations, particularly in Eastern Europe, to avoid periodic scolding on human rights. But China could be acquiring leverage with Europe's economies in need, Godement suggests. Monitoring is the first step, and Godement urges, "eurozone countries would do well to acquire a common or coordinated statistical instrument dealing with their external creditors." Nations err in attempting to monitor or manage issues of globalization on their own. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/eurozone-fights-survival-part-i [HTML format, various paging].

Snapshot of Food Safety Milestones in the History of FDA. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. August 2011.

Until a little over a century ago, there were no federal laws or regulations in place to protect the public from potentially dangerous substances in medicines or foods. In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln appointed a chief chemist to serve in the new Department of Agriculture. This appointment marked the beginning of the Bureau of Chemistry, the predecessor of the Food and Drug Administration. The timeline goes back to 1880.

http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/FoodSafety/FSMA/UCM263778.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

Doing Business in the East African Community 2011. The World Bank. August 2011.

The East African Community is deepening and widening cooperation among its 5 member states: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Spurred by the need to expand markets, boost competitiveness and attract investment, East African countries have continued to take steps to make it easier for local firms to start up and operate. Continuous improvement of the business environment is important for countries seeking to benefit from increased trade and investment through regional integration. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.doingbusiness.org/~/media/FPDKM/Doing%20Business/Documents/Special-Reports/DB11-EAC.pdf [PDF format, 80 pages].

Findings from the 2011 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey. Council of Graduate Schools. Nathan E. Bell. August 2011.

The analysis responds to member institutions' concerns about continuing changes in the enrollment of students from abroad seeking master's and doctoral degrees from U.S. colleges and universities. International students currently comprise about 15.5% of all graduate students in the U.S. The core of this examination is a three-phase survey of CGS member institutions. Data from the survey reveal that applications from prospective international students to U.S. graduate schools increased 11% in 2011, marking the sixth consecutive year of growth and the largest increase since 2006. This year's increase in international offers of admission is also the largest since 2006. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgsnet.org/portals/0/pdf/R_IntlAdm11_II.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

A Bid to Boost U.S.-China Relations. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. August 17, 2011.

As Vice President Joseph Biden begins a visit to China, analysts say both the United States and China will have to restructure their economies to lessen global imbalances and strengthen recovery. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/china/bid-boost-us-china-relations/p25653 [HTML format, various paging].

Education Is Critical to Tackling the Long-Term Consequences of the Famine in Somalia. Brookings Institution. Julius Agbor and Lauren Greubel. August 17, 2011.

In Somalia, emergency assistance to address the famine and health situation is needed immediately and must be the priority of all donors and humanitarian organizations. However, providing education opportunities should also be part of the medium and long-term response to the crisis. Because of the ongoing conflict in Somalia, some students have already lived in a state of vulnerability for much of their lives. Ensuring youth develop workforce and livelihood skills through opportunities beyond primary school is critical to the development of the next generation of leaders and citizens who can help to stabilize the nation and prevent the next famine, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0817_education_somalia_agbor.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Americans and Their Cell Phones: Mobile Devices Help Solve Problems But Create New Annoyances. Pew Internet & American Life Project. August 15, 2011.

Mobile phones have become a near-ubiquitous tool for information-seeking and communicating: 83% of American adults own some kind of cell phone. While cellphones are useful for a wide variety of tasks, owners say they also come with some disadvantages. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2011/Cell%20Phones%202011.pdf [PDF format, 19 pages].

The Contraction in Construction Squeezed Immigrants Hardest. Economic Policy Institute. Heidi Shierholz. August 11, 2011.

The rise and dramatic collapse of the housing boom signaled the beginning of the Great Recession and displaced nearly three million construction workers, with foreign-born non-citizen males facing particularly steep job loss, the briefing paper finds. Heidi Shierholz examines how the Great Recession affected foreign-born and native-born construction workers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://w3.epi-data.org/temp2011/BriefingPaper321.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

U.S. Billion-Ton Update: Biomass Supply for a Bioenergy and Bioproducts Industry. U.S. Department of Energy. August 2011.

The report examines the nation's capacity to produce a billion dry tons of biomass resources annually for energy uses without impacting other vital U.S. farm and forest products, such as food, feed, and fiber crops. It provides industry, policymakers, and the agricultural community with county-level data and includes analyses of current U.S. feedstock capacity and the potential for growth in crops and agricultural products for clean energy applications. The biomass resources identified in the report could be used to produce clean, renewable biofuels, biopower, or bioproducts.

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/pdfs/billion_ton_update.pdf [PDF format, 229 pages].

Fighting Poverty in a Tough Economy, Americans Move in with Their Relatives. Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends. October 3, 2011.

Large numbers of Americans enacted their own anti-poverty program in the depths of the Great Recession: They moved in with relatives. This helped fuel the largest increase in modern history in the number of Americans living in multi-generational households. From 2007 to 2009, the total spiked from 46.5 million to 51.4 million. Living with extended family appears to be a financial lifeline for many. Although their adjusted incomes overall are lower, the poverty rate among people living in multi-generational households is substantially smaller than for those in other households -- 11.5% vs. 14.6% in 2009, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of Census Bureau data. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/files/2011/10/Multigenerational-Households-Final-10-03-11.pdf [PDF format, 49 pages].

Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2012. U.S. Census Bureau. September 28, 2011.

The *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, published since 1878, is the authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the United States.

http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/ [HTML format with links].

U.S. Billion-Ton Update: Biomass Supply for a Bioenergy and Bioproducts Industry. U.S. Department of Energy. August 2011.

The report examines the nation's capacity to produce a billion dry tons of biomass resources annually for energy uses without impacting other vital U.S. farm and forest products, such as food, feed, and fiber crops. It provides industry, policymakers, and the agricultural community

with county-level data and includes analyses of current U.S. feedstock capacity and the potential for growth in crops and agricultural products for clean energy applications. The biomass resources identified in the report could be used to produce clean, renewable biofuels, biopower, or bioproducts.

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/biomass/pdfs/billion_ton_update.pdf [PDF format, 229 pages].

Jobs and Economic Security for Rural America. White House Rural Council. August 2011.

"The vitality of rural America is critical to ensuring the strength of our economy, the affordability of our food, the independence of our energy supply, and the vibrancy of small communities. President Obama values rural America's important contributions to our Nation's well-being, and has worked tirelessly to strengthen the economic security of rural communities across the country. By enacting policies that have helped stave off a second Great Depression and get our economy growing again, the President has laid the foundation for economic growth that will create high paying jobs for all Americans. These policies have made significant impact in rural areas, but the pace of job growth is still not fast enough. In response, the President has redoubled his efforts to strengthen the economy and ensure that all Americans living in rural communities have equal access to a first-class education, affordable healthcare, and real economic opportunities This report lays out the economic landscape rural America faces today and presents some of the Administration's many efforts to promote economic growth and job creation in rural communities."

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/jobs_economic_security_rural_america.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Responding to Global Changes: Water in an Urbanising World. Stockholm International Water Institute. August 2011.

This is the Abstract Volume of the 2011 World Water Week in Stockholm workshops, which will be held from August 21-27, 2011. The topics of this year's workshops are: Cities in a 3-D Landscape Perspective - Hidden Risks, Need for a Paradigm Shift: New Technologies and New Lifestyles, Financing Urban Infrastructure Adapting Cities to Climate Variability and Change, Water for Sustainable Urban Growth, The Urban Shadow, Urban Inequities: Service Delivery and Social Development, and Regulatory and Social Contexts for Institutional Performance. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.siwi.org/documents/Resources/Synthesis/Abstract-Volume-2011.pdf [PDF format, 360 pages].

Solar Power. Pew Center on Global Climate. August 2011.

Solar power harnesses the sun's energy to produce electricity. Solar energy resources are massive and widespread, and they can be harnessed anywhere that receives sunlight. The amount of solar radiation, also known as *insolation*, reaching the earth's surface every hour is more than all the energy currently consumed by all human activities annually. A number of factors, including geographic location, time of day, and current weather conditions, all affect the amount of energy that can be harnessed for electricity production or heating purposes. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/SolarPower.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

Smart Grid. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. August 2011.

The smart grid refers to the application of digital technology to the electric power sector to improve reliability, reduce cost, increase efficiency, and enable new components and applications. Compared to the existing grid, the smart grid promises improvements in reliability, power quality, efficiency, information flow, and improved support for renewable and other technologies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/SmartGrid_0.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment of the Galapagos Islands. World Wildlife Fund. Web posted July 28, 2011.

The Galapagos Islands are among the many places in the world already experiencing the impacts of climate change. It is predicted that climate change will cause rising sea level, higher ocean temperatures and more acidic waters. As the ocean largely regulates the climate, changes in ocean temperatures and currents are already altering the frequency, intensity, and distributions of storms, floods, heat waves, and the amount and distribution of rainfall. According to the report, unique and endemic biodiversity of the Galapagos is at risk. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/all_publications/?201151/ClimateChangeVulnerabilityAsse ssmentoftheGalpagosIslands Summary in Spanish [HTML format with a link to the full text PDF file].

The Politics of Dispute Resolution and Continued Instability in Afghanistan. U.S. Institute of Peace. Noah Coburn. August 2011.

The brief analyzes findings from USIP's in-country research projects on dispute resolution in Afghanistan. The report argues that the lines between formal and informal justice systems in Afghanistan are blurred and that this has major implications for international programs engaging the informal sector, and ultimately concludes that lack of security and political stablity are the greatest challenges to dispute resolution. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/sr285.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

Making Progress on Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Challenges. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Katherine Bliss and Katryn F. Bowe. Aug 11, 2011.

This report presents conclusions and recommendations offered at a World Water Day Learning Forum, "Making Progress on Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Challenges," held at CSIS on March 21, 2011. Sessions focused on the role of the private sector in water supply; achieving operational sustainability; the relevance of climate change adaptation programs for the WASH sector; and how to promote transparency and accountability within WASH programs. The report highlights the importance of community engagement, private sector involvement, and a commitment to the monitoring and evaluation of projects as critical factors in promoting WASH program sustainability. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110810_Bliss_ProgressOnWASH.Web.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

U.S. and Iranian Strategic Competition: Competition Involving China and Russia. Center for Strategic & International Studies. D. Brandton Fite and Anthony H. Cordesman. August 11, 2011.

U.S. competition with Iran has become the equivalent of a game of three-dimensional chess, but a game where each side can modify at least some of the rules with each move, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110811_Iran_Chapter_X.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

The "Democratization" Process in Morocco: Progress, Obstacles and the Impact of the Islamist-Secularist Divide. Brookings Institution. Maati Monjib. August 11, 2011.

Recent events in Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia show both the necessity for change in Morocco and the risks. Dramatic change can come about suddenly, but even a change in the regime may not necessarily bring about stability and better governance. Democratic forces must be strong and prepared as they push for reform in order to ensure that any resulting changes favor the cause of reform, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/08_morocco_monjib/08_morocco_monjib .pdf [PDF format, 41 pages].

Access Endangered: Profiles of the Medically Disenfranchised. National Association of Community Health Centers. August 8, 2011.

The study shows that a growing number of Americans affected by the economic downturn -- including middle class families -- are turning to Community Health Centers for their health care needs. An estimated 60 million Americans -- many of whom have health insurance -- do not have access to primary care because of a shortage of providers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nachc.org/client/documents/NAC_AccessEndangered_FINAL_Lo.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Agricultural Progress and Poverty Reduction. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Joe Dewbre et al. August 10, 2011.

Achieving the Millennium Development Goal to halve global poverty by 2015 looks increasingly likely, although many countries may fall far short of this goal. The study compares socio-economic characteristics of twenty-five countries that have posted exceptional progress in reducing poverty to better understand why some countries are doing better than others. Three key questions were addressed: 1) Is agriculture more important than other sources of earned income in reducing poverty? 2) Are the countries most successful in reducing poverty similar in other ways? 3) Which government policy actions seem to have contributed most? Both the overall rate and the sectoral composition of economic growth matter for poverty reduction, but remittances and other kinds of financial transfers are also important sources of income for the poor. The sectoral pattern of growth changes systematically as countries develop, posing challenges for governments searching for the best balance of macroeconomic, social and sectoral policies to foster poverty reduction. [Note: contain copyrighted material].

http://www.oecd-

ilibrary.org/docserver/download/fulltext/5kg6v1vk83r2.pdf?expires=1313164258&id=id&accname =guest&checksum=E86A10FB167F06627FC97682325DFBF2 [PDF format, 59 pages].

The Peace Corps: Current Issues. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Curt Tarnoff. August 4, 2011.

Founded in 1961, the Peace Corps has sought to meet its legislative mandate of promoting world peace and friendship by sending American volunteers to serve at the grassroots level in villages and towns in all corners of the globe. About 8,655 volunteers currently serve in 77 nations.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21168.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Subnational Government in Afghanistan. RAND Corporation. Michael Shurkin. August 10, 2011.

This primer on subnational government in Afghanistan is meant to inform efforts to strengthen local government in recently cleared areas. Among the problems afflicting the Afghan state are the lack of effective service provision and representation, which together should constitute the base of the state's legitimacy. The paper identifies the various entities of local government and identifies opportunities for improvement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/occassional_papers/2011/RAND_OP318.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

In the US, Clean Water Is No Guarantee. YaleGlobal. Susan Froetschel. August 11, 2011.

Americans use twice as much water as Europeans do and pay half as much for it. Low fees lead many Americans to take their abundant supplies for granted. Globally, most water is used for irrigation purposes, but in the US., thermoelectric generation requires more water. "During an economic recession, protecting water supplies takes a back seat to industries that promise jobs," notes Froetschel. "Anti-government fervor dangerously coincides with industry resistance to government protections." The small not-for-profit water industry is highly fragmented, with tens of thousands of waterworks under state and local jurisdiction and a hodgepodge of laws that can only lead to shortages and conflicts. Severe drought throughout the South already strains groundwater supplies. Conservatives express anxiety about dependence on foreign oil supplies, yet show little concern about the future of water supplies. The U.S. could be making a mistake prioritizing energy production over protection of its water supply, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/us-clean-water-no-guarantee [HTML format, various paging].

Global Economy: Is Anybody in Control? YaleGlobal. David Dapice. August 9, 2011.

Around the globe, national leaders show no clue, no confidence, about how to re-engineer job creation or global economic security, contends the author. The U.S. has many resources for resolving its large debt, but bickering and stubborn quests for power prevent speedy resolution. Europe's resistance to enact long-term policies on unequal accrual of debt among its member states and grudging rescue do little to inspire confidence. Debt has weakened once strong economies, leaving them highly vulnerable in the event of unavoidable disasters, as is the case with Japan and its debt/GDP ratio of 200 percent. Emerging economies, so dependent on exports to wealthy nations and natural-resource extraction, offer limited hope. Around the world, the young confront a bleak future with limited job prospects, huge imbalances of all sorts and institutions under strain. National leaders resist efforts to pursue the common good and seek instead the pettiest of political victories. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/global-economy-anybody-control [HTML format, various paging].

On Cyber Peace. Atlantic Council. Les Bloom and John Savage. August 8, 2011.

The authors argue that the best deterrence to cyber conflict is to aggressively pursue national and international risk mitigation at the same time we explore step to develop offensive and defensive cyber measures. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/080811_ACUS_OnCyberPeace.PDF [PDF foramt, 8 pages].

Commitments to Save: A Field Experiment in Rural Malawi. The World Bank. Lasse Brune et al. August 2011.

The paper reports the results of a field experiment that randomly assigned smallholder cash crop farmers formal savings accounts. In collaboration with a microfinance institution in Malawi, the authors tested two primary treatments, offering either: 1) "ordinary" accounts, or 2) both ordinary and "commitment" accounts. Commitment accounts allowed customers to restrict access to their own funds until a future date of their choosing. A control group was not offered any account but was tracked alongside the treatment groups. Only the commitment treatment had statistically significant effects on subsequent outcomes. The effects were positive and large on deposits and withdrawals immediately prior to the next planting season, agricultural input use in that planting, crop sales from the subsequent harvest, and household expenditures in the period after harvest. Across the set of key outcomes, the commitment savings treatment had larger effects than the ordinary savings treatment. Additional evidence suggests that the positive impacts of commitment derive from keeping funds from being shared with one's social network. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/08/02/000158349_20110 802154804/Rendered/PDF/WPS5748.pdf [PDF format, 55 pages].

Views of Tea Party Supporters in Congress Grow More. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. August 9, 2011.

More Americans now think that members of Congress who support the Tea Party are having a negative effect than said that in January, at the start of the new Congress. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://people-press.org/2011/08/09/views-of-tea-party-supporters-in-congress-grow-more-negative/?src=prc-headline [HTML format, various paging].

Rising Restrictions on Religion: One-third of the World's Population Experiences an Increase. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. August 9, 2011.

Restrictions on religious beliefs and practices rose between mid-2006 and mid-2009 in 23 of the world's 198 countries (12%), decreased in 12 countries (6%) and remained essentially unchanged in 163 countries (82%), according to the study. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewforum.org/Government/Rising-Restrictions-on-Religion(2).aspx?src=prc-headline [HTML format with links].

Taiwan: Major U.S. Arms Sales Since 1990. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Shirley A. Kan. August 2, 2011.

The report discusses U.S. security assistance to Taiwan, or Republic of China (ROC), including policy issues for Congress and legislation. Congress has oversight of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), P.L. 96-8, which has governed arms sales to Taiwan since 1979, whe the U.S. recognized the People's Republic of China (PRC) instead of the ROC. Defense Secretary Robert Gates submitted to Congress in February 2010 an unclassified assessment of Taiwan's air defense forces, including its F-16 fighters. On August 1, 181 Memebers of the House sent a letter to President Obama to urge him to sell F-16C/D fighters.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/weapons/RL30957.pdf [PDF format, 72 pages].

Kuwait Security, Reform, and U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. July 28, 2011.

Kuwait has been pivotal to two decades of U.S. efforts to end a strategic threat posted by Iraq and then to stabilize that country in its transition to democracy. After U.S. forces liberated Kuwait from Iraqi invading forces in February 1991, Kuwait was the central location from which the U.S. contained Saddam during 1991-2003, and Kuwait hosted nearly all of the U.S.-led force that invaded Iraq in March 2003 to remove Saddam from power.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS21513.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

The Debt Limit: History and Recent Increases. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. D. Andrew Austin and Mindy R. Levit. August 3, 2011.

Total federal debt can increase in two ways. First, debt increases when the government sells debt to the public to finance budget deficits and acquire the financial resources needed to meet its obligations. This increases debt held by the public. Second, debt increases when the federal government issues debt to certain government accounts, such as the Social Security, Medicare, and Transportation trust funds. The recent economic slowdown led to a sharply higher deficits in recent years, which led to a series of debt limit increases.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL31967.pdf [PDF format, 33 pages].

Search and Email Still Top the List of Most Popular Online Activities. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Kristen Purcell. August 9, 2011.

Search and email remain the two online activities that are nearly universal among adult internet users, as 92% of online adults use search engines to find information on the Web, and a similar number (92%) use email. Since the Pew Internet Project began measuring adults' online activities in the last decade, these two behaviors have consistently ranked as the most popular, even as new platforms, broadband and mobile devices continue to reshape the way Americans use the internet and web. Even as early as 2002, more than eight in ten online adults were using search engines, and more than nine in ten online adults were emailing. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~/media/Files/Reports/2011/PIP_Search-and-Email.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

Facilities Financing: Monetizing Education's Untapped Resource. American Enterprise Institute. Himanshu Kothari. August 8, 2011.

Like most everyone, schools have been forced to tighten their belts to survive in today's economic downturn. School leaders have been cutting budgets for afterschool activities, classroom equipment, and staff, all in an era of increasing academic expectations. It is little surprise, then, that facilities issues have been relegated to the bottom of the to-do list. However, the enormous costs and burdens of outmoded facilities arrangements represent an immense opportunity for the nation's school systems. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/Himanshu-Kothari-Facilities-Financing-Monetizing-Educations-Untapped-Resources-pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

Global Environmental Quality: Recommendations for Rio+20 and Beyond. Brookings Institution. William Brown. August 8, 2011.

In June 1972, the United Nations convened the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. The conference led to the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and produced a declaration whose first principle states: "Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being, and he bears a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations." The next conference is scheduled for June 2012, once again in Rio de Janeiro. The author presents his recommendations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0808_global_environmental_quality_brown.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Governance in State-owned Enterprises Revisited: the cases of water and electricity in Latin America and the Caribbean. The World Bank. Luis Alberto Andres et al. August 2011.

The paper studies the governance structure of state-owned enterprises in the water and electricity sectors of Latin America and the Caribbean. Through a unique dataset, the paper compares 44 leading state companies of the region based on an aggregate measure of corporate governance and six salient aspects of their design: board, chief executive officer, performance orientation, management, legal framework, and transparency/disclosure. The results indicate the need for improvement in areas such as the selection and appointment of directors to the board and the performance-orientation of the enterprises. The paper also highlights the importance of discussing the management of state-owned enterprises in the wider context of public sector governance, with particular focus on accountability. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/08/01/000158349_20110 801150940/Rendered/PDF/WPS5747.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Where on Earth is Everybody ?: The Evolution of Global Bilateral Migration 1960-2000. The World Bank. Calgar Ozden et al. Web posted August 2011.

Global matrices of bilateral migrant stocks spanning 1960-2000 are presented, disaggregated by gender and based primarily on the foreign-born definition of migrants. More than one thousand census and population register records are combined to construct decennial matrices corresponding to the five census rounds between 1960 and 2000. For the first time, a comprehensive picture of bilateral global migration over the second half of the 20th century emerges. The data reveal that the global migrant stock increased from 92 million in 1960 to 165 million in 2000. Quantitatively, migration between developing countries dominates, constituting half of all international migration in 2000. Migration from developing to developed countries is the fastest growing component of international migration in both absolute and relative terms. The U.S. has remained the most important migrant destination in the world, home to one fifth of the world's migrants and the top destination for migrants from some 60 sending countries. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www-

wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/06/28/000158349_201106281002 23/Rendered/PDF/WPS5709.pdf [PDF format, 59 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Norway. U.S. Energy Information Administration. August 2011.

Norway, the largest holder of natural gas and oil reserves in Europe, provides much of the oil and gas consumed on the continent. In fact, in 2010, Norway was the second largest exporter of natural gas in the world, second only to Russia. In 2010, crude oil, natural gas, and pipeline

transport services accounted for almost 50 percent of Norway's exports value, 21 percent of GDP, and 25 percent of government revenues according to the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate. Although Norway's oil production peaked in 2001 at 3.42 million barrels per day (bbl/d) and declined to 2.13 million bbl/d in 2010, natural gas production has been steadily increasing since 1993, reaching 3.76 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) in 2010.

http://www.eia.gov/EMEU/cabs/Norway/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Common Metrics: Comparing Countries' Climate Pledges. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. September 2011.

To enable a better understanding of the mitigation pledges offered under the Copenhagen Accord and the Cancún Agreements, this analysis converts the 2020 pledges of the major economies into four common metrics: percent change in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990; percent change from 2005; percent change from "business as usual" and; percent change in emissions intensity from 2005. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/country-pledge-brief.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

Work-Family Conflict: Look to Employers and Communities for Solutions. Brookings Institution. Ron Haskins et al. Fall 2011.

Most American parents are under severe time pressure because they need to work while simultaneously caring for their children and, increasingly, for elderly family members as well. Government mandates on businesses to provide workplace flexibility for employees to relieve some of this pressure are minimal to nonexistent, and most parents do not qualify for government child care programs. Unprecedented government budget strains make it unlikely that legislative bodies will provide relief in the foreseeable future. The best hope for struggling working parents lies in voluntary provision of workplace flexibility by employers and more support from community institutions, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/1005_work_family_haskins/1005_work_family_haskins.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2011: Warnings about the Dangers of Tobacco. World Health Organization. July 7, 2011.

WHO has launched the *WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic, 2011*, the third in a series of periodic reports about the extent and character of the epidemic and measures to stop it. The report presents the latest global and country data on the prevalence of tobacco use and on the impact of the package of demand-reduction measures known by their acronym MPOWER. The report has a particular focus on the importance of large graphic health warnings on tobacco packages and of anti-tobacco mass media campaigns. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_ara.pdf Executive Summary in Arabic [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_chi.pdf Executive Summary in Chinese [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_eng.pdf Executive Summary in English [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_fre.pdf Executive Summary in French [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_rus.pdf Executive Summary in Russian [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2011/WHO_NMH_TFI_11.3_spa.pdf Executive Summary in Spanish [PDF format, 8 pages].

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2011/9789240687813_eng.pdf Full Text in English [PDF format, 164 pages].

Did the Housing Boom Increase Household Spending? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Shenyi Jiang et al. Web posted August 2011.

Between 1995 and 2007, inflation-adjusted house prices more than doubled in some areas of the United States. During this unprecedented boom, households spent more and reduced their saving rate. A key question is how much of the increased spending was related to rising house prices, as opposed to other factors? And, if households spent more when prices soared, are they likely to cut back during the housing bust? The answers can help in assessing retirement saving trends, according to the brief. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB 11-10 508.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Vital Signs: Hospital Practices to Support Breastfeeding -- United States, 2007 and 2009. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. August 5, 2011.

Childhood obesity is a national epidemic in the United States. Increasing the proportion of mothers who breastfeed is one important public health strategy for preventing childhood obesity. The World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative specifies Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding that delineate evidence-based hospital practices to improve breastfeeding initiation, duration, and exclusivity.

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6030a4.htm?s_cid=mm6030a4_w [HTML format, various paging].

Cuba's Offshore Oil Development: Background and U.S. Policy Considerations. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Neelesh Nerurkar and Mark P. Sullivan. July 21, 2011.

Cuba is moving toward development of its offshore oil resources. While the country has proven oil reserves of just 0.1 billion barrels, the U.S. Geological Survey estimates that offshore reserves in the North Cuba Basin could contain an additional 4.6 billion barrels of undiscovered technically recoverable crude oil. White it is unclear whether offshore oil production could result in Cuba becoming a net oil exporter, it could reduce Cuba's current dependence on Venezuela for oil supplies.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/169371.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

The Kabul Courts and Conciliators: Mediating Cases in Urban Afghanistan. U.S. Institute of Peace. Zuhal Nesari and Karima Tawfik. Web posted August 2011.

U.S. Institute of Peace observation in the Kabul court system shows that a significant number of legal disputes are being resolved through a combination of formal and informal justice

mechanisms, contrary to the assumption that resorting to traditional dispute resolution bodies occurs only in rural areas where legal awareness and access to courts is low. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB101.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

Optimism and Obstacles in India-Pakistan Peace Talks. U.S. Institute of Peace. Stephanie Flamenbaum and Megan Neville. August 2011.

The authors present research and dialogue on India-Pakistan relations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resouces/PB98.pdf [PDF foramt, 5 pages].

Wind Power. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. August 2011.

Wind power harnesses the energy generated by the movement of air in the earth's atmosphere to drive electricity-generating turbines. Although humans have used wind power for hundreds of years, modern turbines reflect significant technological advances over early windmills and even over turbines from just ten or twenty years ago. Wind resource potential varies significantly across the United States with substantial resources found in the Midwest and along the coasts, according to the report.

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/WindPower.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

Rising Fears of New Global Recession. Council on Foreign Relations. Jonathan Masters. August 5, 2011.

A tumultuous week in global markets that saw major indexes plunge aroused concerns of a double-dip recession driven by U.S. economic lethargy and the European Union's resurgent sovereign debt crisis. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/financial-crises/rising-fears-new-global-recession/p25599 [HTML format, various paging].

Digital Learning and Technology: Federal Policy Recommendations to Seize the Opportunity - and Promising Practices Than Inspire Them. Alliance for Excellent Education. August 2, 2011.

Technology and digital learning provide innovative opportunities to improve education, personalize learning for each student, and have better student achievement. This brief highlights the promising practices that some schools are employing to transform student learning and the federal policies that can assist schools in making that transformation. The promising practices shared in this brief point to several key areas in which technology and digital learning can make a difference for teachers and students. They include examples that illustrate how some states, districts, and schools are maximizing the potential of technology and digital learning to change student outcomes. The federal policies emphasize that the federal government has the opportunity to assist states, school districts, and public schools by creating policies that encourage innovation and provide options for digital learning and technology. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.all4ed.org/files/DigitalLearning.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

U.S. Wind-Turbine Manufacturing: Federal Support for an Emerging Industry. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Michaela D. Platzer. September 23, 2011.

Increasing U.S. energy supply diversity has been the goal of many Presidents and Congresses. This commitment has been prompted by concerns about national security, the environment, and the U.S. balance of payments. More recently, investments in new energy sources have been seen as a way to expand domestic manufacturing. For all of these reasons, the federal government has a variety of policies to promote wind power. The outlook for wind turbine manufacturing in the U.S. is partially dependent upon federal and state policies. A variety of federal laws and policies have encouraged both wind energy production and the use of U.S.-made equipment to generate that energy. Some of these policies are subject to change at the end of 2011, and others are scheduled to expire in 2012. Future decisions about these policies will affect the extent to which wind turbine manufacturing becomes an important industrial sector in the U.S.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42023.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

Iran Sanctions. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. July 20, 2011.

There is broad international support for imposing progressively strict economic sanctions on Iran to try to compel it to verifiably confine its nuclear program to purely peaceful uses. However, most U.S. and international officials appear to agree that the sanctions have not, to date, so severely hurt Iran's economy to the point at which the core Western goals on Iran's nuclear program can be accomplished.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS20871.pdf [PDF format, 70 pages].

Voting Law Changes in 2012. Brennan Center for Justice, New York University School of Law. Wendy R. Weiser and Lawrence Norden. October 3, 2011.

Ahead of the 2012 elections, a wave of legislation tightening restrictions on voting has suddenly swept across the country. More than five million Americans could be affected by the new rules already put in place this year, a number larger than the margin of victory in two of the last three presidential elections. This report is the first full accounting and analysis of this year's voting cutbacks. It details both the bills that have been proposed and the legislation that has been passed since the beginning of 2011. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://brennan.3cdn.net/908643d0ff303bdf08_j0m6bplun.pdf Summary [PDF format, 4 pages].

http://brennan.3cdn.net/9c0a034a4b3c68a2af_9hm6bj6d0.pdf [PDF format, 64 pages].

Arms Control and Nonproliferation: A Catalog of Treaties and Agreements. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Amy F. Woolf et al. September 20, 2011.

Arms control and nonproliferation efforts are two of the tools that have occasionally been used to implement U.S. national security strategy. Although some believe these tools do little to restrain the behavior of U.S. adversaries, while doing too much to restrain U.S. military forces and operations, many other analysts see them as an effective means to promote transparency, ease military planning, limit forces, and protect against uncertainty and surprise. Arms control and nonproliferation efforts have produced formal treaties and agreements, informal arrangements, and cooperative threat reduction and monitoring mechanisms. The pace of implementation slowed, however, in the 1990s, and the Bush Administration usually preferred unilateral or ad hoc

measures to formal treaties and agreements to address U.S. security concerns. But the Obama Administration has resumed bilateral negotiations with Russia and pledged its support for a number of multilateral arms control and nonproliferation efforts.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/RL33865.pdf [PDF format, 72 pages].

U.S.-China Military Contacts: Issues for Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Shirley A. Kan. July 26, 2011.

The report discusses policy issues regarding military-to-military contacts with the People's Republic of China (PRC) and provides a record of major contacs and crises since 1993. Issues for Congress include whether the Obama Administration has complied with legislation overseeing dealings with the China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) and pursued contacts with the PLA that advance a prioritized set of U.S. security interests, especially the operational safety of U.S. military personnel.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL32496.pdf [PDF format, 72 pages].

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA): Background and Policy Options for the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Wendy Ginsberg. July 26, 2011.

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) enables any person to acces certain existing, identifiable, unpublished, executive branch agency records. The report discusses FOIA's history, examines its implementation, and provides potential policy approaches for Congress.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secrecy/R41933.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

Challenges to the Boeing-Airbus Duopoly in Civil Aircraft: Issues for Competitiveness. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Glennon J. Harrison. July 25, 2011.

The importance of a successful aeropace industry to the United States economy has been repeatedly acknowledged by President Obama and members of his Cabinet, many Members of Congress. A major issues for policymakers is whether the U.S. can sustain its preeminent position in aerospace, given the intentions of numerous foreign manufacturers to enter the small jet aircraft segment by 2016.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41925.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

The Interplay of Borders, Turf, Cyberspace, and Jurisdiction: Issues Confronting U.S. Law Enforcement. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kristin M. Finklea. July 19, 2011.

Savvy criminals constantly develop new techniques to target U.S. persons, businesses, and interests. Individual criminals as well as broad criminal networks exploit geographic borders, criminal turf, cyberspace, and law enforcement jurisdiction to dodge law enforcement countermeasures. Further, the interplay of these realities can potentially encumber policing measures. In light of these interwoven realities, policy makers may question how to best design policies to help law enforcement combat ever-evolving criminal threats.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41927.pdf [PDF format, 41 pages].

Holocaust-Era Insurance Claims: Background and Proposed Legislation. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Paul Belki et al. July 13, 2011.

In November 1998, U.S. insurance regulators, six European insurers, international Jewish organiations, and the State of Israel agreed to establish the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC). The report aims to information consideration of H.R. 890 and S. 466 and possible alternatives pertaining to the Holocaust-era compensation and restitution issues.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34348.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Preventing Obesity and Its Consequences: Highlights of RAND Health Research. RAND Corporation. August 3, 2011.

The brief summarizes key RAND studies on the causes of obesity, its economic and health consequences, and potential strategies for prevention, including work on health care costs, junk food, food deserts, school meals, and proximity of parks. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/2011/RAND_RB9508.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

Development of a European Crime Report: Improving Safety and Justice with Existing Crime and Criminal Justice Data. RAND Corporation. Priscillia Hunt et al. August 2, 2011.

The European Commission seeks to develop a European Crime Report (ECR) to improve understanding of the EU crime and justice situation. The report presents the analytical and operational challenges and opportunities to developing an ECR. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR936.pdf [PDF format, 166 pages].

Mind the Gap: Peer-to-peer Healthcare. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. August 2, 2011.

Peer-to-peer healthcare acknowledges that patients and caregivers know things, about themselves, about each other, about treatments, and they want to share what they know to help other people. Technology helps to surface and organize that knowledge to make it useful for as many people as possible. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/20-Mind-the-Gap.aspx [HTML format with links].

A Stalled Arab Spring. YaleGlobal. Dilip Hiro. August 4, 2011.

Revolutions are rarely smooth affairs. Securing lasting change takes longer than many analysts in the West and young protesters on the streets of Egypt, Yemen, Syria, Libya and Tunisia might have anticipated, explains Dilip Hiro. Quick exits by presidents of Tunisia and Egypt spread hope throughout the Middle East and North Africa, yet citizens of both nations flounder in consolidating political power. In Syria and Yemen, where generals did not abandon the regimes en masse, protesters still use Friday prayers to rally huge numbers and resist controls. Even rebels in Libya, supported by NATO forces, struggle to win territory and citizen confidence. Convincing dictators to abandon posts could be the easy part, Hiro writes, but replacing organs of law and order, defense, educational and other institutions that supported decades-old regimes will take years. Citizens have lost their fear of security forces, though, and repressive regimes and nations that might lend them support have been put on notice. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/stalled-arab-spring [HTML format, various paging].

Immigration and Poverty in America's Suburbs. Brookings Institution. Roberto Suro et al. August 4, 2011.

As the foreign-born have grown more numerous, they have dispersed geographically. Some metropolitan areas have become immigrant gateways for the first time. And within many metropolitan areas, increasing numbers of immigrants have settled in suburban communities, where they were once only a sparse presence, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0804_immigration_suro_wilson_singer/08 04_immigration_suro_wilson_singer.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

The U.S. Export Control System and the President's Reform Initiative. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ian F. Fergusson and Paul K. Kerr. July 14, 2011.

The 112th Congress may consider reforms of the U.S. export control system. The balance between national security and export competitiveness has made the subject of export controls controversial for decades. The creation of a single control list has been the Administration's focus to date.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R41916.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

Learning at a Distance: Undergraduate Enrollment in Distance Education Courses and Degree Programs. National Center for Education Statistics. October 5, 2011.

This Statistics in Brief investigates undergraduates' participation in distance education using nationally representative student-reported data collected through the three most recent administrations of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2012/2012154.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

Burma Delivers Its First Rebuff to China. YaleGlobal. Bertil Lintner. October 3, 2011.

Ever since the brutal Burmese suppression of democracy movement in the late 1980s, China has emerged as the principal backer of the military regime that renamed the country Myanmar. Sanctioned by the West, the military regime depends on China for trade, arms supplies and infrastructure aid. Now a presidential announcement suspending the Myitsone Dam project on the Irrawaddy River, a joint venture with China, could signal the Burmese military's disenchantment with China or at least a show of desire to distance itself from the powerful neighbor if only to win Western support, explains Burma expert Bertil Lintner. The move could also give the regime a degree of legitimacy because 90 percent of power generated was expected to go to China and Burmese citizens, including Nobel laureate Aung San Su Kie, protested the environmental damage. But playing the "China Card" while repressing citizen demands for democratic reforms may not be enough to satisfy the critical West. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/burma-delivers-its-first-rebuff-china [HTML format, various paging].

Strengthening the Scientific Understanding of Climate Change Impacts on Freshwater Resources of the United States. U.S. Department of Interior. Web posted October 3, 2011.

The report that assesses the status of scientific information available to help understand the impacts of climate change and other stressors on U.S. freshwater resources and calls for modernization of systems to help monitor and sustain water supplies. It reviews the state of existing science and identifies strategies for improving systems to collect climate-related data and water monitoring information. The improvements are intended to help water managers predict, respond and adapt to the effects of climate change on the nation's freshwater supplies so that they can help ensure adequate water quantity and quality.

http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&pageid=260567 [P DF format, 56 pages].

Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act: Impact on U.S. Industries and Consumers and on Beneficiary Countries, Twentieth Report 2009-10. U.S. International Trade Commission. September 2011.

The overall effect of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA) on the U.S. economy continues to be negligible, while the effect on U.S. consumers and beneficiary countries is small but positive, reports the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) in its most recent report monitoring imports under the program.

http://usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4271.pdf [PDF format, 166 pages].

State Education Agencies as Agents of Change. Center for American Progress. Cynthia G. Brown et al. July 2011.

The authors examine state education agencies and recommend ways for these agencies to help public schools better serve our children. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/07/pdf/sea.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

Iran's Accelerating Military Competition with the US and Arab States - Part One. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman et al. July 28, 2011.

The tone and content of Iranian military competition with the U.S. and Arab states continues to move in a hardline direction, according to the authors. Iran's ongoing efforts to enhance its asymmetric warfare capabilities and its accelerated R&D in its ballistic missile and nuclear programs have been accompanied by increasingly defiant statements from the regime. These developments reflect Iran's stated goals of building a deterrent capacity, establishing its capability to close the Gulf, and influencing the political, religious, and social environment of the region toward the likely end-goal of asserting itself as the dominant regional power. Although the regime often affirms peaceful regional intentions, a net assessment of its push to expand the aforementioned capabilities is necessary. Repeated assertions that the Gulf is "Persian" and belongs to Iran, threats to "close the Gulf," and menacing rhetoric concerning Israel signify Iran's intentions to vigorously compete with the U.S. and other regional actors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://cisis.org/files/publication/Iranian%20Strategic%20Competition%20pt.1%207.28.11.pdf [PDF format, 84 pages].

Exploring the Role of Regional Transportation Projects as Rural Economy Drivers. National Association of Development Organizations. July 2011.

With case studies in Alabama, Oregon, and Vermont, the report explores regions where public transit is playing a role in connecting employees to work, getting people to services, and revitalizing downtown areas. Through partnerships at the local and regional level, regional planning and development organizations are facilitating improved mobility, which in turn supports the regional economy. [Note: contains copyrigted material].

http://www.ruraltransportation.org/uploads/RegTransit.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

The Turkish Constitution and the Kurdish Question. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Henri Barkey and Direnç Kadioglu. August 1, 2011.

Turkey's Kurdish question is that country's single most important problem, according to the authors. It is and has always been a political problem. Successive Turkish governments have sought to resolve it either through repressive military and occasionally economic means. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://carnegieendowment.org/2011/08/01/turkish-constitution-and-kurdish-question/4el4 [HTML format, various paging].

Running in Circles: Progress and Challenges in Regulating Recruitment of Filipinos and Sri Lankan Labor Migrants to Jordan. Migration Policy Institute. Dovelyn Rannveig Agunias. July 29, 2011.

Labor migration from the Philippines and Sri Lanka to Jordan has filled a growing share of unskilled and semi-skilled jobs in recent years, with private recruitment agencies playing an important role in facilitating and driving labor migration. But despite a comprehensive set of laws and guidelines to control migration systems in these countries, workers remain vulnerable to abuse and exploitation at the hands of recruitment agents. Excessive placement fees, violations of contractual terms and conditions, underpayment or nonpayment of wages, poor working or living conditions, confiscation of passports, and even physical abuse highlight the significant gaps in these countries' migration protection systems. The report identifies problem areas and recommends ways to strengthen system management. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/JordanCorridor-Labor-2011.pdf [PDF format, 53 pages].

A U.S. Debt -- and Prestige -- Downgrade? Council on Foreign Relations. Christopher Alessi. July 29, 2011.

Whatever the outcome of the debt ceiling debate, many analysts expect a downgrade in the U.S. debt rating because of doubts about deficit-reduction plans. The fallout could include higher borrowing costs, a weaker dollar, and market turbulence, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/financial-crises/us-debt----prestige----downgrade/p25565 [HTML format, various paging].

Assessing Deeper Learning. Alliance for Education. July 28, 2011.

New assessments that measure deeper learning, whether students understand challenging content and are able to apply that knowledge to think critically, solve problems, communicate their understanding, and work with their peers, are essential if students are to develop the competencies they need to succeed in an increasingly complex world. Such assessments would not only measure whether students have developed those competencies, they would also foster

deeper learning in the classroom, because of the influence of assessment on instruction. The brief shows what assessments that measure deeper learning would look like, how they are used in other countries, how technology can support their development, and how they can be implemented feasibly. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.all4ed.org/files/AssessingDeeperLearning.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Federal Compliance Works against Education Policy Goals. American Enterprise Institute Outlook. Melissa Junge and Sheara Krvaric. July 28, 2011.

According to the authors, Congress and education policymakers should clarify and streamline federal fiscal compliance requirements so schools can focus less on compliance and more on raising student achievement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/EDU-2011-06-g.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

China's New Leftists and the China Model Debate after the Financial Crisis. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Charles Freeman and Wen Jin Yuan. July 28, 2011.

In the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, China's leadership is now paying specific attention to potential limits of the free market system as a basis for achieving optimum policy outcomes. [Note: contain copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110728_Freeman_ChinaNewLeftists_Web.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

The MetLife Report on American Grandparents: New Insights for a New Generation of Grandparents. Mature Market Institute, MetLife. July 2011.

There are 65 million grandparents in the U.S., an increase from 40 million in 1980. More than one in every four adults is a grandparent. A long way from being dependent, households that are headed by someone 45 to 64 years old command almost half (46%) of the nation's total household income. If households older than age 65 are added in, the grandparent age share of the nation's income rises to 60%, which is a full 10 percentage points higher than it was in 1980. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.metlife.com/assets/cao/mmi/publications/studies/2011/mmi-americangrandparents.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Near-Term Opportunities for Integrating Biomass into the U.S. Electricity Supply: Technical Considerations. RAND Corporation. David S. Ortiz et al. July 29, 2011.

Biomass is an increasingly important source of electricity, heat, and liquid fuel. One near-term option for using biomass to generate electricity is to cofire biomass in coal-fired electricity plants. The report focuses on two aspects of biomass use: plant-site modifications, changes in operations, and costs associated with cofiring biomass; and the logistical issues associated with delivering biomass to the plant. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR984.pdf [PDF format, 187 pages].

Global Demographic Change and Its Implications for Military Power. RAND Corporation. Martin C. Libicki et al. July 27, 2011.

What is the impact of demographics on the prospective production of military power and the causes of war? The monograph analyzes this issue by projecting working-age populations through 2050; assessing the influence of demographics on manpower, national income and expenditures, and human capital; and examining how changes in these factors may affect the ability of states to carry out military missions. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2011/RAND_MG1091.pdf [PDF format, 171 pages].

The Battle of Dubai: The United Arab Emirates and the U.S.-Iran Cold War. Carnegie Endowment for Internatioal Peace. Karim Sadjadpour. July 27, 2011.

According to the study, if the United States and the United Arab Emirates seek to move beyond sanctions and military containment to address the deeper roots of the Iranian threat, they may find they have differing long-term interests. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/dubai_iran.pdf [PDF format, 46 pages].

From Disputed Waters to Seas of Opportunity: Overcoming Barriers to Maritime Cooperation in East and Southeast Asia. The National Bureau of Asian Research. Clive Schofield et al. July 2011.

The report highlights findings from the National Bureau of Asian Research's three-year project "Maritime Energy Resources in Asia: Opportunities for Joint Development," which assesses maritime jurisdictional disputes and opportunities for cooperation in East and Southeast Asia. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nbr.org/publications/specialreport/pdf/free/SR30 MERA.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

China's North Korean Foreign Policy Decoded. YaleGlobal. Sunny Lee. July 28, 2011.

The U.S. and North Korea today meet in New York to determine if six-nation talks, aimed at curbing North Korea's nuclear ambitions, can resume. Media and diplomatic attention focuses on China, too: The West expects China to scold its unruly neighbor to the north and make it behave. Yet China's influence is an unknown, explains Sunny Lee. Strong pressure from Beijing could aggravate the reckless regime with little to lose. In doling out food, fuel and advice, hoping to avoid instability, revolution or war, China acts in its own best interests, Lee argues. China's influence could soon be tested amid rumors that North Korea plans another nuclear test, aimed at demonstrating strength of its leadership, set to be under the helm of a man in his 20s. Relying on a mix of diplomacy, aid, cajoling and scolding, China's influence, remains uncertain and depends on day-to-day whims of an isolated dictator and North Korea's military command. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/chinas-north-korean-foreign-policy-decoded [HTML format, various paging].

Pirates of the ISPs: Tactics for Turning Online Crooks Into International Pariahs. Brookings Institution. Noah Shachtman. July 2011.

At the beginning of the 19th century, piracy was an ongoing threat and an accepted military tactic. By the end of the century, it was taboo, occurring solely off the shores of failed states and minor powers. The practice of hijacking did not vanish entirely, of course; it is flourishing now on the world's computer networks, costing companies and consumers countless billions of dollars. Cybercrime today seems like a nearly insoluble problem, much like piracy was centuries ago. There are steps, however, that can be taken to curb cybercrime's growth, and perhaps begin to marginalize the people behind it. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0725_cybersecurity_shachtman/0725_cybersecurity_shachtman.pdf [PDF format, 51 pages].

The Economic Integration of Immigrants in the United States: Long- and Short-Term Perspectives. Migration Policy Institute. Aaron Terrazas. July 2011.

The U.S. has provided excellent economic opportunities for generations of immigrants, who are set to play an increasingly significant role in the U.S. economy in coming decades as more baby boomers retire. Because many immigrants are concentrated in low-wage or low-skill jobs, the 2007-09 economic crisis accentuated their vulnerabilities in the labor market, with a risk that the crisis could prove to be a turning point in their future upward socioeconomic mobility. While historically, in the absence of government integration policies, the workplace has played a key role in immigration integration, it remains unclear if this approach will continue to ensure strong economic integration moving forward. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/EconomicIntegration.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

Third International Mathematics and Science Study 1999 Video Study Technical Report, Volume 2: Science. National Center for Education Statistics. Helen E. Garnier et al. July 27, 2011.

This second volume of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 1999 Video Study Technical Report focuses on every aspect of the planning, implementation, processing, analysis, and reporting of the science components of the TIMSS 1999 Video Study. Chapter 2 provides a full description of the sampling approach implemented in each country. Chapter 3 details how the data were collected, processed, and managed. Chapter 4 describes the questionnaires collected from the teachers in the videotaped lessons, including how they were developed and coded. Chapter 5 provides details about the codes applied to the video data by a team of international coders as well as several specialist groups. Chapter 6 describes procedures for coding the content and the classroom discourse of the video data by specialists. Lastly, in chapter 7, information is provided regarding the weights and variance estimates used in the data analyses. There are also numerous appendices to this report, including the questionnaires and manuals used for data collection, transcription, and coding.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011049.pdf [PDF format, 579 pages].

STEM: Good Jobs Now and For the Future. Economics & Statistics Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. July 2011.

"Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) workers drive our nation's innovation and competitiveness by generating new ideas, new companies and new industries. However, U.S. businesses frequently voice concerns over the supply and availability of STEM workers. Over the past 10 years, growth in STEM jobs was three times as fast as growth in non-STEM jobs. STEM workers are also less likely to experience joblessness than their non-STEM counterparts. Science, technology, engineering and mathematics workers play a key role in the sustained growth and stability of the U.S. economy, and are a critical component to helping the U.S. win the future."

http://www.esa.doc.gov/sites/default/files/reports/documents/stemfinalyjuly14_1.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

Oslo's Spotlight on Anti-Muslim Radicalism. Council on Foreign Relations. Christopher Alessi. July 25, 2011.

The recent killings in Norway highlight the rise of anti-Muslim, anti-immigration feelings in Europe and the U.S. that could impede tackling other forms of homegrown terrorism, say experts. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/norway/oslos-spotlight-anti-muslim-radicalism/p25534 [HTML format, various paging].

71% of Online Adults Now Use Video-Sharing Sites. Pew Internet & American Life Project. July 26, 2011.

Rural internet users are now just as likely as users in urban and suburban areas to have used video-sharing sites, and online African-Americans and Hispanics are more likely than internet-using whites to visit video-sharing sites. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewresearch.org/pubs/2070/online-video-sharing-sites-you-tube-vimeo [HTML format, various paging].

Managing Arab-Kurd Tensions in Northern Iraq After the Withdrawal of U.S. Troops. RAND Corporation. Larry Hanauer et al. July 25, 2011.

To help U.S. policymakers prepare for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq in late 2011, the paper presents options for mitigating the risks of Arab-Kurd conflict. The authors assess the value of confidence-building measures to help Arabs and Kurds build trust and address local disputes, but they conclude that Iraqi leaders must resolve outstanding political and legal questions regarding northern Iraq to avert violence in the long-term. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/occasional_papers/2011/RAND_OP339.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

Graduate and First-Professional Students: Who They Are and How They Pay for Their Education: 2007-08. National Center for Educatin Statistics. July 26, 2011.

This Statistics in Brief focuses on graduate and first-professional students, exploring the types of programs in which they are enrolled, costs associated with those programs, and how those costs are financed via aid and work.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011174.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Industrial Organziation of the Chinese Coal Industry. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Kevin Jianjun Tu. July 25, 2011.

Statistical distortion on the use of coal in China is likely to not only severely undermine Beijing's energy conservation and carbon abatement policy initiatives, but also make it difficult for the international community to verify achievements claimed by the Chinese government, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/China_Coal_Value_Chain_Kevin_Tu.pdf [PDF format, 103 pages].

Wealth Gaps Rise to Record Highs Between Whites, Blacks and Hispanics. Pew Research Center Social & Demographic Trends. July 26, 2011.

Median household wealth among Hispanics fell from \$18,359 in 2005 to \$6,235 in 2009--a 66% decline. This was larger than the decrease for black households (53%) and white households (16%), according to an analysis of newly-available Census Bureau data by the Pew Research Center's Social & Demographic Trends project. Plummeting house values were the principal cause of the erosion in wealth among all groups, but Hispanics were hit hardest by the housing market downturn. In 2009, the typical white household had 18 times more wealth than the typical Hispanic household, by far the largest gap since the government first reported such data in 1984. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewsocialtrends.org/files/2011/07/SDT-Wealth-Report_7-26-11_FINAL.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

A Nationwide Framework for Surveillance of Cardiovascular and Chronic Lung Diseases. Institute of Medicine. July 22, 2011.

Surveillance systems have a potentially key role in reducing the health toll of chronic diseases. Currently, surveillance data are collected from a variety of sources, but there is no national surveillance system to fill the gaps between these monitoring approaches. To help close the gap, the Institute of Medicine presents a conceptual framework for national surveillance of cardiovascular and chronic lung disease and calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt it and take the lead in developing a national surveillance system. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2011/A-Nationwide-Framework-for-Surveillance-of-Cardiovascular-and-Chronic-Lung-Diseases/National%20Surveillence%20Systems%202011%20Report%20Brief.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Meeting the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Mandate for Cellulosic Biofuels: Questions and Answers. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kelsi Bracmort. July 13,2011.

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) was expanded under the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA; P.L. 110-140) in an effort to reduce dependence on foreign oil, promote biofuel use, and stabilize transportation fuel prices, among other goals. Over a 15-year period, the RFS seeks to establish a market for biofuels in the transportation sector by requiring that increasing amounts of biofuels--36 billion gallons by 2022--be blended into transportation fuel. The mandate is to be accomplished with an assortment of advanced biofuels, including cellulosic biofuels--fuels produced from cellulosic materials including grasses, trees, and agricultural and municipal wastes. However, analysis suggested the United States did not have sufficient cellulosic biofuel production capacity to meet the 2010 and 2011 RFS mandate instituted by Congress in EISA, and this is likely to continue for the 2012 mandate.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41106.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Its Role in U.S. Trade Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. J.F. Hornbeck and Laine Elise Rover. July 19, 2011.

Congress created Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) in the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to help workers and firms adjust to economic dislocation that may be caused by trade liberalization. Although most economist agree that there are substantial national gains from trade, backers of TAA argue that the government has an obligation to help those hurt by policy-driven trade opening. In addition, as an alternative to policies that might otherwise restrict imports, it can provide assistance, while supporting freer trade and diminishing prospects for potentially costly tension (retaliation) among trade partners. Often controversial, it is still strongly debated some 50 years later, on equity, efficiency, and budgetary grounds, but may still serve a pragmatic legislative function. For those Members concerned with the negative effects of trade, it can provide a countervailing response to help maintain what is often slim majority support of highly contested trade legislation. For these reasons, it has been central to U.S. trade policy for the past half century.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41922.pdf [PDF format, 19 pages].

Who Uses Bottled Gas?: Evidence from Households in Developing Countries. The World Bank. Masami Kojima, Robert Bacon, and Xin Zhou. July 21, 2011.

Household surveys in Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka were analyzed using a two-stage Heckman model to examine the factors influencing the decision to use liquefied petroleum gas (stage 1) and, among users, the quantity consumed per person (stage 2). In the first stage, liquefied petroleum gas selection in all six countries increased with household expenditure and the highest level of education attained by female and male household members. Electricity connection increased, and engagement in agriculture and increasing household size decreased, liquefied petroleum gas selection in five countries; urban residence increased selection in four countries; and rising firewood and kerosene prices increased selection in three countries each. In the second stage, the quantity of liquefied petroleum gas consumed increased with rising household expenditure and decreasing price of liquefied petroleum gas in every country. Urban residence increased and engagement in agriculture decreased liquefied petroleum gas consumption. Surveys in Albania, Brazil, Mexico, and Peru, which did not report quantities, were also examined by calculating quantities using national average prices. Although fuel prices faced by individual households could not be tested, the findings largely supported those from the first six countries. Once the education levels of men and women were separately accounted for, the gender of the head of household was not statistically significant in most cases across the ten countries. Where it was significant (five equations), the sign of the coefficient was positive for men, possibly suggesting that female-headed households are burdened with unmeasured economic disadvantages, making less cash available for purchasing liquefied petroleum gas. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-

wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/IW3P/IB/2011/07/21/000158349_201107 21161347/Rendered/PDF/WPS5731.pdf [PDF format, 63 pages].

Clean Energy Markets: Jobs and Opportunities. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. July 25, 2011.

The brief discusses how investment in clean energy technologies will generate economic growth and create new jobs in the U.S. and around the globe. The U.S. stands to benefit from the expansion of global clean energy markets, but only if it moves quickly to support domestic demand for and production of clean energy technologies through well-designed policy that enhances the competitiveness of U.S. firms. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/clean-energy-markets-update2011_0.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

Public Agriculture Research Spending and Future U.S. Agricultural Productivity Growth: Scenarios for 2010-2050. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Paul Heisey, Sun Ling Wang, and Keith Fuglie. July 25, 2011.

By 2050, global agricultural demand is projected to grow by 70-100 percent due to population growth, energy demands, and higher incomes in developing countries. Meeting this demand from existing agricultural resources will require raising global agricultural total factor productivity (TFP) by a similar level. The rate of TFP growth of U.S. agriculture has averaged about 1.5 percent annually over the past 50 years, but stagnant (inflation-adjusted) funding for public agricultural research since the 1980s may be causing agricultural TFP growth to slow down. ERS simulations indicate that if U.S. public agricultural R&D spending remains constant (in nominal terms) until 2050, the annual rate of agricultural TFP growth will fall to under 0.75 percent and U.S. agricultural output will increase by only 40 percent by 2050. Under this scenario, raising output beyond this level would require bringing more land, labor, capital, materials, and other resources into production.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EB17/EB17.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

Cycles, Gaps, and the Social Value of Information, National Bureau of Economic Research. George-Marios Angeletos et al. July 18, 2011.

What are the welfare effects of the information contained in macroeconomic statistics, central-bank communications, or news in the media? The authors address this question in a business-cycle framework that nests the neoclassical core of modern DSGE models. Earlier lessons that were based on "beauty contests" are found to be inapplicable. Instead, the social value of information is shown to hinge on essentially the same conditions as the optimality of output stabilization policies. More precise information is unambiguously welfare-improving as long as the business cycle is driven primarily by technology and preference shocks, but can be detrimental when shocks to markups and wedges cause sufficient volatility in "output gaps." A numerical exploration suggests that the first scenario is more plausible. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nber.org/papers/w17229.pdf [PDF format, 47 pages].

Europe: Integrating Islam. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. July 25, 2011.

Western Europe's burgeoning Islamic population continues to spark concerns about Muslim assimilation and a cultural divide, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/religion/europe-integrating-islam/p8252 [HTML format, various paging].

Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime. The White House. July 25, 2011.

"Not only will this new strategy allow us to integrate our work more effectively, and to leverage limited resources more efficiently, it also will ensure that our agencies - and our government and law enforcement partners - have the tools and authorities necessary to protect the American people from some of today's most urgent, and complex, threats. Of course, the problem of transnational organized crime networks isn't new. But after a wide-ranging, year-long review - the first study of its kind in more than 15 years - our understanding of what exactly we're up against has never been clearer or more complete. Today's criminal organizations are increasingly sophisticated. They know no borders. They threaten the stability of our financial system, and the promise of a competitive marketplace. And their operations are putting far too many American businesses, government institutions, consumers, and citizens at risk."

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/2011-strategy-combat-transnational-organized-crime.pdf [PDF format, 38 pages].

Addressing Export Control in the Age of Cloud Computing. Brookings Institution. John Villasenor. July 25, 2011.

The move to the cloud is one of the defining information technology trends of the early 21st century. By providing businesses, universities, government agencies, and other entities with access to shared and often physically dispersed computing resources, cloud computing can simultaneously offer increased flexibility, reduced cost, and access to a wider array of services. Cloud computing has also created a set of new challenges. For example, the issues of privacy and security in the cloud are well recognized and have been extensively discussed in the business and popular press. However, one critical issue that has received very little attention with respect to cloud computing is export control, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0725_cloud_computing_villasenor/0725_cloud_computing_villasenor.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Constraints to Domestic Enterprise Financing in Post-Conflict Liberia. Center for Global Development. John Gorlorwulu. July 22, 2011.

The paper examines the efficacy of loan programs in the development of domestic enterprises in the immediate aftermath of conflicts. The author explores whether the strategies employed by such programs are effective and if there are opportunities for improving the outcomes of similar projects. The paper explores the experience of the Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company, which was established in 2007 to provide medium-and long0term credit to small and medium domestic enterprises. In addition to shedding light on the challenges such an enterprise faces in a post conflict environment, the paper explores whether the strategies employed are effective and if there are opportunities for effecting remedial changes that could improve the outcomes of such a program in post-conflict environments generally. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1425323/ [HTML format, various paging].

Egypt's Democratic Transition: Five Important Myths About the Economy and International Assistance. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Michele Dunne et al. July 21, 2011.

If the democratic transition in Egypt fails and the country adopts a repressive, authoritarian, or theocratic form of government, the consequences could be profound. Failure in Egypt could lead other countries in the region to turn away from the very idea of democratic reform, according to the report. Of course, democracy in other countries will rise and fall due to local conditions. Nevertheless, if the transition in Egypt succeeds, and the country acquires a democratic, accountable, and efficient form of government, it is likely to become a powerful example and, ultimately, a stabilising force in a turbulent region. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/Egypts_Democratic_Trans_UK16ppWEB.pdf [PDF foramt, 16 pages].

Student Teaching in the United States. National Council on Teacher Quality. July 2011.

The report examines policies and practices at 134 universities and colleges to answer questions like... "Who is mentoring our future teachers?" "Do student teachers receive the feedback they

need to improve?" "Does the experience sufficiently replicate the experience of being a teacher?" [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nctq.org/edschoolreports/studentteaching/reports.jsp [HTML format with links].

Is France on Course to Bid Adieu to Globalization? YaleGlobal. Pierre Haski. July 21, 2011.

The French have long been critical of globalizing forces that disrupt their nation's economy or threaten their identity. Calls for démondialisation, or deglobalization, has emerged as a leading issue in the French presidential campaign. Intense opposition to engagement with the world builds among the left and right, along with alarm about the global debt crisis, structural youth unemployment and a disturbing rise in inequality. Policy changes, including France distancing itself from European Union politics, as foreshadowed by its 2005 rejection of the European Constitutional Treaty, could be in store, explains the author. Some pleas for deglobalization are selfish and xenophobic. Other calls are poignant, including those from Socialist Party candidate Arnaud Montebourg, author of a book urging the French to wrest control over a form of globalization that's "created unemployed in the North and increased the number of quasi-slaves in the South, destroying natural resources everywhere and taking away from people their hardwon right to self-determination." Mainstream advocates as yet fail to present a convincing defense for globalization. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/france-bid-adieu-globalization [HTML format, various paging].

Neighborhood Early Warning Systems: Four Cities' Experience and Implications for the District of Columbia. Urban Institute. Christopher Snow et al. Web posted July 21, 2011.

To alert community stakeholders to buildings at risk, institutions in several cities created neighborhood early warning systems (NEWS) in the 1980's and 1990's. These online systems integrated and mapped public administrative data to pinpoint deterioration in housing. City agency staff, housing practioners, and neighborhood groups consulted NEWS to locate troubled properties or to craft strategies to revive distressed neighborhoods. This paper reviews four neighborhood early warning systems -- Chicago NEWS, Neighborhood Knowledge Los Angeles, the Philadelphia Neighborhood Information System, and the Minneapolis Neighborhood Information System -- to explore the value and feasibility of developing a system for Washington, D.C. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412366-neighborhood-early-warning.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

2008-09 Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:08/09): A First Look at Recent College Graduates. National Center for Education Statistics. July 20, 2011.

The report describes the enrollment and employment experiences of a national sample of college graduates one year after their 2007-08 graduation. Data presented include education financing; postbaccalaureate enrollment; student loan repayment; and employment, particularly employment in teaching.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011236.pdf [PDF format, 63 pages].

North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union's Common Security and Defense Policy: Intersecting Trajectories. Strategic Studies Institute. Sarwar A. Kashmeri. July 21, 2011.

The author concludes that NATO is increasingly dysfunctional. Unless it is grafted in a supporting role to the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), NATO will soon become irrelevant to transatlantic security needs.

http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB1078.pdf [PDF format, 60 pages].

Kids' Share 2011: Report on Federal Expenditures on Children Through 2010. Brookings Institution. Julia B. Isaacs et al. July 21, 2011.

This fifth annual Kids' Share report marks a milestone in the analysis of federal expenditures on children because available data now span 50 years, from 1960 to 2010. During the past half-century, the size and composition of expenditures on children has changed considerably. Back in 1960, the largest federal contributions to families due to the presence of children came from the dependent exemption, Social Security, and education. Fifty years later, the dependent exemption has much less relative value, and Medicaid, the earned income tax credit, and the child tax credit have become the three largest federal expenditures on children. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/reports/2011/0721_kids_share_isaacs/0721_kids_share e isaacs.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

Clinical Preventive Services for Women: Closing the Gaps. Institute of Medicine. July 19, 2011.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) addresses preventive services for both men and women of all ages, and women in particular stand to benefit from additional preventive health services. he Institute of Medicine recommends that women's preventive services include, among other services, improved screening for cervical cancer, sexually transmitted infections, and HIV; a fuller range of contraceptive education, counseling, methods, and services; services for pregnant women; at least one well-woman preventive care visit annually; and screening and counseling for interpersonal and domestic violence. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2011/Clinical-Preventive-Services-for-Women-Closing-the-Gaps/Preventive%20Services%20Women%202011%20Report%20Brief.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

U.S. Obesity Trends. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. July 21, 2011.

About one-third of U.S. adults (33.8%) are obese. Approximately 17% (or 12.5 million) of children and adolescents aged 2--19 years are obese. During the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States and rates remain high. In 2010, no state had a prevalence of obesity less than 20%. Thirty-six states had a prevalence of 25% or more; 12 of these states (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia) had a prevalence of 30% or more.

http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/trends.html [HTML format with links].

Alternative Fuels as a Military Strategy. The Heritage Foundation. David Kreutzer. July 20, 2011.

Will shifting the U.S. military to alternative fuels reduce casualties and geopolitical threats? That is what some are contending. Their answers focus on two main factors: the material and human costs of transporting fuel in a battle zone and oil revenues received by unfriendly regimes. Digging just a little below the surface shows these arguments to be camouflage for a bright green

agenda that has high costs for the military, both in dollars and lives. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2011/07/Biofuels-Impact-of-Using-Alternative-Fuels-for-the-US-Military [HTML format, various paging].

Ten Years of Afghan War. Council on Foreign Relations. Jayshree Bajoria. October 7, 2011.

After a decade of fighting, U.S. goals remain unclear in Afghanistan. With the 2014 deadline to end the combat mission, experts remain divided on hopes for a political settlement, and stress political and governance reforms. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/afghanistan/ten-years-afghan-war/p26134 [HTML format, various paging].

Using Technology to Personalize Learning and Assess Students in Real-Time. Brookings Institution. Darrell M. West. October 6, 2011.

The report examines new models of instruction made possible by digital technologies. Pilot projects from across the country are experimenting with different organizations and delivery systems, and transforming the manner in which formal education takes place. By itself, technology will not remake education. Meaningful change requires alterations in technology, organizational structure, instructional approach, and educational assessment. But if officials combine innovations in technology, organization, operations, and culture, they can overcome current barriers, produce better results, and reimagine the manner in which schools function. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/1006_personalize_learning_west/1006_personalize_learning_west.pdf [PDF format, 19 pages].

A System Approach to Building a World-Class Teaching Profession: The Role of Induction. Alliance for Excellent Education. October 4, 2011.

About 15 percent of the American workforce of 3.5 million teachers either moves or leaves the profession each year. The size of the teaching force coupled with the high annual turnover rates seriously compromises the nation's capacity to ensure that all students have access to skilled teaching. If the dominant teacher workforce policies and practices remain unchanged, then the aspirations of the common core standards and aligned assessments will simply continue a legacy of unfulfilled reforms. The brief addresses the need for coherent incentives and structures to change the very culture of how teachers are supported. A new paradigm is needed to construct a consistent vision of quality teaching--one that is anchored in a system of performance assessments and leveraged through the design of clinically based preservice programs, comprehensive induction, and collaborative professional learning. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.all4ed.org/files/TeacherInduction.pdf [PDF format, 19 pages].

International Food Security Assessment, 2011-21. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Shahla Shapouri et al. July 15, 2011.

The number of food-insecure people in developing countries is estimated to decline about by 9 million, from 861 million in 2010 to 852 million in 2011 and the number is projected to decline by 16 percent, or nearly 140 million over the next decade. Food security in Asia and the Latin America and the Caribbean region is projected to improve, whereas food security in Sub-Saharan

Africa is expected to deteriorate. Food-insecure people are defined as those consuming less than the nutritional target of roughly 2,100 calories per day per person.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/GFA22/GFA22.pdf [PDF format, 64 pages].

Head Start and the Changing Demographics of Today's Young Children. Urban Institute. Olivia Golden. July 19, 2011.

The increasing diversity of America's young children has important implications for Head Start and Early Head Start programs. This paper summarizes recent changes in the racial and ethnic composition of young children, particularly increases in Hispanic and Asian children, as well as shifts in where young children live, with some northeastern and Midwestern states losing children while southern and southwestern states are rapidly gaining. Based on these trends and recent Urban Institute research, the paper makes four recommendations about how local Head Start practitioners can best meet the needs of today's young children and their families. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/109046-head-start-changing-demographics-todays-children.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Scientists, Managers, and Tourists: The Changing Shape of European Migration to the United States. Migration Policy Institute. Xiaochu Hu and Madeleine Sumption. July 2011.

Once the dominant immigrant stream into the U.S., European migration to the country has fallen sharply since World War II, a result of economic, demographic, and policy trends across the Atlantic. Today's migration from European Union Member States is characterized by highly skilled immigrants who are more educated, earn better wages, have greater English proficiency, and are more strongly represented as scientists, professionals, and businesspeople than other immigrant groups. European migration has maintained a relatively low profile in immigration policy debates, however the Europe-favoring Visa Waiver Program has figured prominently into the immigration policy arena because of its relation to enhanced border security. [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/EuropeanMigration.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

Investing for Sustainable Development?: A Review of Investment Principles - Trends and Impacts. International Institute for Environment and Development. July 2011.

How can investors be encouraged to consider more than purely commercial and short-term gains? Various sets of investment principles have emerged in recent years. These principles aim to incorporate social, environmental and governance criteria into investment decisions in order to enhance the benefits and reduce the damaging effects of investment for development. Increasing numbers of organisations are signing up to these principles for reasons that range from improving their reputation to minimising risks and improving long-term investment prospects. Yet their impact on sustainable development remains unproven, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/16505IIED.pdf [PDF format, 76 pages].

U.S. and Iranian Strategic Competition: Iran's Perceptions of International Sanctions and their Implications for Strategic Competition with the U.S. in the Gulf, Sept. 2010 - April 2011. Center Strategic & International Studies. Anthony Cordesman and Alexander Wilner. Web posted July 18, 2011.

The Burke Chair has compiled a series of chronological reports with the assistance of Adam Seitz of the Marine Corps University that focus on Iranian perceptions of national security and assess Iran's intentions concerning competition with the U.S. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110714_US_Iranian_Strategic_Competition_Sanctions.pdf [PDF format, 69 pages].

The Purpose of the Corporation in Business and Law School Curricula. Brookings Institution. Darrell M. West. July 19, 2011.

For most of American history, businesses were run to provide livelihoods and "reasonable" profit. In the last few decades, though, business and society in general have moved toward emphasizing profit maximization and individual self-interest. The shift from "reasonable profit" to profit maximization has significant implications for corporate behavior and government regulation. Moreover, how society views the purpose of the corporation has significant implications not only for business, but also for the perceived responsibilities of its citizens, their interactions with each other, and their obligation to their fellow countrymen, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/0719_corporation_west/0719_corporation_west.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

Egyptian Youth Sidelined From Their Own Revolution. YaleGlobal. Mohamed El Dahshan. July 19, 2011.

Egypt's revolution is incomplete. Massive protests press on in Cairo and other cities, with many upset about the military overseeing transition from a crony dictatorship to democracy. Confusion of a transitional leadership and fast-approaching elections is unsettling: The transitional government lacks popular mandate, yet has little choice but to move quickly on budgetary and other matters with long-term repercussions, including rejecting an IMF loan, accepting a Saudi and Gulf loan instead. Meanwhile numerous parties jostle to do battle in upcoming parliamentary elections. The Muslim Brotherhood, long an opposition force against the Mubarak regime, has a strong organization, but is hardly democratic with its internal operations, punishing dissenters and reformers within its ranks. The courageous youth who started the revolution are not part of the political planning that will decide Egypt's future, explains economist Mohamed El Dahshan. Street protests are no longer enough, and he urges the young to shake off their status as tokens and pursue leadership roles in the political process. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/egyptian-youth-sidelined-their-own-revolution [HTML format, various paging].

Drinking Water: Unreliable State Data Limit EPA's Ability to Target Enforcement Priorities and Communicate Water Systems' Performance. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Web posted on July 19, 2011.

The nation's drinking water is among the safest in the world, but contamination has occurred, causing illnesses and even deaths. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has authorized most states, territories, and tribes to take primary responsibility for ensuring that community water systems provide safe water. EPA needs complete and accurate data on systems' compliance with SDWA to conduct oversight. GAO was asked to assess the (1) quality of the state data EPA uses to measure compliance with health and monitoring requirements of the act and the status of enforcement efforts, (2) ways in which data quality could affect EPA's management of the drinking water program, and (3) actions EPA and the states have been taking to improve data quality. GAO analyzed EPA audits of state data

done in 2007, 2008, and 2009, and surveyed EPA and state officials to obtain their views on factors that have affected data quality and steps that could improve it.

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11381.pdf [PDF format, 74 pages].

College Students and Technology. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Aaron Smith et al. July 19, 2011.

By every key measurement, college students lead the way in tech and gadget use. But community college students do not use digital tools as much as four-year college students and graduate students. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/College-students-and-technology.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

The Nation's Report Card: Geography 2010. National Center for Education Statistics. July 19, 2011.

The report presents results of the 2010 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in geography. National results for representative samples of students at grades 4, 8, and 12 are reported as average scale scores and as percentages of students performing at or above three achievement levels: Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. Scores are also reported for selected percentiles, showing changes in the performance of lower-, middle-, and higher-performing students. Results for student demographic groups defined by various characteristics (e.g., race/ethnicity, gender, and students' eligibility for free or reduced-price school lunch) are included, as well as sample assessment questions with examples of student responses. Results from the 2010 assessment are compared to those from two previous assessments in 1994 and 2001.

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2010/2011467.pdf [PDF format, 62 pages].

Non-Profit News: Assessing a New Landscape in Journalism. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. Jesse Holcomb et al. July 18, 2011.

Institutions and funders have been moving to fill the gap being left by shrinking newsrooms by backing non-profit news sites. Roughly half of these sites produce news that is clearly ideological in nature. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.journalism.org/sites/journalism.org/files/Non-profit%20news%20study%20FINAL.pdf IPDF format. 47 pages].

Global Water Issues. International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. July 18, 2011.

Global Water Issues explores the political, social and economic challenges presented by threats to Earth's most vital natural resource. With a foreword by U.S. Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero, Global Water Issues describes how this ecological emergency affects population centers, human health, climate and food security.

http://photos.state.gov/libraries/amgov/30145/publications-english/Global_Water_Issues.pdf

Sizing the Clean Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment. Brookings Institution. Mark Muro et al. July 13, 2011.

The "green" or "clean" or low-carbon economy, defined as the sector of the economy that produces goods and services with an environmental benefit, remains at once a compelling aspiration and an enigma. As a matter of aspiration, no swath of the economy has been more widely celebrated as a source of economic renewal and potential job creation. Yet, the clean economy remains an enigma: hard to assess, according to the report. Not only do "green" or "clean" activities and jobs related to environmental aims pervade all sectors of the U.S. economy; they also remain tricky to define and isolate, and count. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/Programs/Metro/clean_economy/0713_clean_economy.p df [PDF format, 68 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Mexico. Energy Information Administration. July 11, 2011.

Mexico is a major non-OPEC oil producer and the United States' second largest source of oil imports. Mexico produced slightly less than 3 million barrels of oil per day (bpd) in 2010, a 500,000 bpd decrease since 2007. EIA projects that Mexico will become a net oil importer by 2020.

http://www.eia.gov/EMEU/cabs/Mexico/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Country Analysis Briefs: Kuwait. Energy Information Administration. July 13, 2011.

Kuwait is a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and exported the fourth largest volume of crude oil among the group in 2010. At the same time, Kuwait's economy is one heavily dependent on petroleum export revenues, which account for half of its overall gross domestic product (GDP), 95 percent of total export earnings, and 95 percent of government revenues.

http://www.eia.gov/EMEU/cabs/Kuwait/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 12 pages].

More Than Meets the Eye: The Politics of For-Profits in Education. American Enterprise Institute. Andrew P. Kelly. July 12, 2011.

The traditional Left-Right ideological continuum fails to capture the ways policymakers and the public confront questions about for-profit involvement in education, according to the paper. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/Private-Enterprise-No-2.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part I. YaleGlobal. Keith Schneider. July 12, 2011.

Scarcity of water increasingly challenges economic growth of India and China. Water's role in economic development is taken for granted, yet for running the growth engine it's as precious a commodity as fossil fuels. The first part of the series examines strategies for negotiating demands among competing industries. Conflicts over water could disrupt China's steady economic progress, argues the author. The nation of 1.33 billion, the largest emerging global market and set to become the world's lead manufacturing nation, is a price-setter. The Chinese government anticipated contests over water and already enforces many efficiency and conservation measures. But food and energy production depend on water while China is getting drier: Water reserves are down 13 percent from 2000. Amid rising energy demands, coal-fired power already accounts for nearly a quarter of the nation's freshwater use. China's ongoing rapid development

could lead to water shortages sure to rattle food, energy and water prices worldwide. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/water-challeges-asia-powers-part-i [HTML format, various paging].

Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part II. YaleGlobal. Rohini Nilekani. July 14, 2011.

India and China account for one third of the world's population; each consumes more freshwater than other nations. Per inhabitant per year, though, India uses less than half what's used in the US, China uses less than one third. The second part of the series examines India and China's water use, their expectations for rising demand and recognition that shortages will disrupt economic progress. The Planning Commission of India repeatedly warns that water will become a more serious issue than land or energy for India in years to come, points out the author. India's transition from an economy based on agriculture to a mixed one, with water use controlled by states rather than the federal constitution, already leads to conflicts. She urges planning for a low-water economy: Good governance and regulatory frameworks can prevent pollution and waste, while encouraging efficiency, reliable and fair allocation, and wise consumer choices. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/water-challeges-asia-powers-part-ii [HTML format, various paging].

Water Challenges Asia's Rising Powers - Part I. YaleGlobal. Keith Schneider. July 12, 2011.

Scarcity of water increasingly challenges economic growth of India and China. Water's role in economic development is taken for granted, yet for running the growth engine it's as precious a commodity as fossil fuels. The first part of the series examines strategies for negotiating demands among competing industries. Conflicts over water could disrupt China's steady economic progress, argues the author. The nation of 1.33 billion, the largest emerging global market and set to become the world's lead manufacturing nation, is a price-setter. The Chinese government anticipated contests over water and already enforces many efficiency and conservation measures. But food and energy production depend on water while China is getting drier: Water reserves are down 13 percent from 2000. Amid rising energy demands, coal-fired power already accounts for nearly a quarter of the nation's freshwater use. China's ongoing rapid development could lead to water shortages sure to rattle food, energy and water prices worldwide. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/water-challeges-asia-powers-part-i [HTML format, various paging].

ACA and State Governments: Consider Savings as Well as Costs. Urban Institute. Matthew Buettgens et al. July 13, 2011.

The report finds that state governments are likely to spend \$92-129 billion less from 2014 to 2019 with implementation of the Affordable Care Act, thanks to provisions reducing the uninsured population and increasing federal support for health care previously financed by states. The authors find that, overall, the federal government would spend \$704 to \$743 billion more under reform from 2014 to 2019. Even after 2019, when the federal government's share of Medicaid costs declines to its permanent level, states will still come out ahead, realizing net savings in 2020 alone of \$12 to \$19 billion. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412361-consider-savings-pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

Children's Television Act: FCC Could Improve Efforts to Oversee Enforcement and Provide Public Information. U.S. Government Accountability Office. July 14, 2011.

GAO recommends that FCC (1) implement a strategy to oversee cable operators' and satellite providers' compliance, (2) work with industry to develop voluntary guidelines for assessing core children's programming, and (3) implement and assess the effectiveness of additional mechanisms to inform parents about core children's programming.

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11659.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

The United Arab Emirates (UAE): Issues for U.S. Policy. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kenneth Katzman. June 23, 2011.

For the Obama Administration and many in Congress, there are concerns about the UAE oversight and management of a complex and technically advanced initiative such as a nuclear power program. This was underscored by dissatisfaction among some Members of Congress with a U.S.-UAE civilian nuclear cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed on May 21, 2009, and submitted to Congress that day. It entered into force on December 17, 2009. However, expert concerns about potential leakage of U.S. and other advanced technologies through the UAE to Iran, in particular, remain. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RS21852.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

The Health Systems Funding Platform: Resolving Tensions between the Aid and Development Effectiveness Agendas. Center for Global Development. Amanda Glassman and William Savedoff. July 12, 2011.

Global health aid is exceedingly complex. It encompasses more than one hundred bilateral agencies, global funds, and independent initiatives that interact with an equally complex and diverse set of institutions involved in financing and providing health care in developing countries. Numerous efforts have been made to better coordinate these activities in the interest of making them more effective. The Health Systems Funding Platform is one of the most recent of these initiatives. Established in 2009, it has advanced farthest in two countries, Ethiopia and Nepal, and is currently expanding to several others. The paper briefly assesses the Health Systems Funding Platform and finds that its progress differs little from prior initiatives, although it does present an opportunity to make global health aid more effective. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1425300/ [HTML format with a link].

Rethinking a Resource-Based Strategy. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. Web posted July 12, 2011.

The U.S. defense community is only beginning to address the full implications of the challenges it faces in terms of international economic competition and shrinking budgets. Its strategic planning and analysis is still largely conceptual and often focused so far in the future as to be virtually meaningless in providing useful guidance for allocating resources, and making hard decision about strategic commitments, force plans, procurement plans, and manpower plans. The author has developed a summary briefing showing the key resource trends that affect U.S. strategy and the need to develop a new approach that pays as much attention to resources and costs as to the other aspects of strategy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110712_US_Resource_Based_Threats.pdf [PDF format, 108 pages].

Challenges for European Defense Budgets after the Economic Crisis. American Enterprise Institute. Patrick Keller. July 11, 2011.

Case studies of European states--Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Sweden-suggest the need for greater defense cooperation and pooling of military resources among European states. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/NSO-2011-07-No-1-g.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Linking Costs and Postsecondary Degrees. American Enterprise Institute. Nate Johnson. July 8, 2011.

Given the tight fiscal environment, it is critical that policymakers have a solid grasp on how to think about college costs and accountability so that they will be prepared to make important decisions about budget cuts and higher education policy in the years ahead. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/Linking-Costs-and-Postsecondary-Degress-Johnson-FINAL.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

Road to Recovery: Transforming America's Transportation. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Bill Bradley et al. July 11, 2011.

According to the author, America's transportation system is failing: infrastructure is crumbling and up to \$175 billion is added annually to the national deficit. Without reform, this failure poses a significant threat to America's economic, energy, and environmental security. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/road_to_recovery.pdf [PDF format, 129 pages].

Considerations for a Catastrophic Declaration: Issues and Analysis. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Bruce R. Lindsay and Francis X. McCarthy. July 6, 2011.

The report examines concerns expressed by policymakers and experts that current Stafford Act declaration are inadequate to respond to, and recover from, highly destructive events, and presents the argumetns for and against amending the act to add a catastrophe declaration amendment. It also includes data analyses of past and potential disasters to determine what incidents might be deemed as catastrophic, and explores alternative policy options that might obviate the need for catastrophic declarations.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R41884.pdf [PDF format, 27 pages].

The Republic of South Sudan: Opportunities and Challenges for Africa's Newest Country. Congressional Research Service. Library of Congress. Ted Dagne. July 1, 2011.

In January 2011, South Sudan held a referendum to decide between unity or independence from the central government of Sudan as called for by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that ended the country's decades-long civil war in 2005. According to the South Sudan Referendum Commission, 98.8% of the votes cast were in favor of separation. In February 2011, Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir officially accepted the referendum result, as did the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, the United Staes, and other countries. On July 9, 2011, South Sudan officially declared its independence

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/167853.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

Job Creation in the Manufacturing Revival. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Marc Levinson. July 1, 2011.

After a prolonged slump, the U.S. manufacturing sector is showing notable signs of revival. The strengthening of U.S. manufacturing is a subject of intense interest in Congress. Most notably, proponents of support for the manufacturing sector often associate increased manufacturing activity with the creation of jobs for workers without higher education. Evidence suggests, however, that even strong growth in manufacturing output could well have only modest impact on job creation, and is unlikely to reverse the decling demand for workers with low levels of education.

http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/167854.pdf [PDF format, 17 pages].

Reinvigorating Antitrust Enforcement. Center for American Progress. David Balto. July 12, 2011.

David Balto assesses the Obama administration's antitrust enforcement up to now and offers recommendations to strengthen that enforcement going forward. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/07/pdf/antitrust_enforcement.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

Latin America's Decade: A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity. Brookings Institution. Mauricio Cardenas. July 11, 2011.

Historically, experts have often characterized Latin America as a region with poor economic features: hyperinflation, fiscal populism, and costly industrial policies rife with corruption are just a few examples. However, experts are beginning to change their tune. In fact, many analysts are referring to the 2010s as Latin America's decade, says the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0711_latin_americas_decade_cardenas.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Tansforming Prevention, Care, Education, and Research. Institute of Medicine. June 29, 2011.

Chronic pain affects an estimated 116 million American adults and costs the nation up to \$635 billion each year in medical treatment and lost productivity. The Institute of Medicine that the Department of Health and Human Services develop population-level strategies to increase awareness about pain and its treatments. In addition, the IOM offers a blueprint for action in transforming prevention, care, education, and research, with the goal of providing relief for people with pain in America. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=13172 [HTML format, various paging].

Angola: Assessing Risks to Stability. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Alex Vines and Markus Weimer. Web posted July 7, 2011.

he report, *Angola: Assessing Risks to Stability*, is part of a series examining the risks of instability in 10 African countries over the next decade. The 10 papers are designed to be complementary

but can also be read individually as self-standing country studies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110623_Vines_Angola_Web.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

SHOPping Around: Setting Up State Health Care Exchanges for Small Businesses: A Roadmap. Center for American Progress. Terry Gardiner and Isable Perera. July 6, 2011.

Terry Gardiner and Isabel Perera provide a roadmap for states, policymakers, health reform advocates, and small-business leaders as they begin to create SHOP exchanges. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/07/pdf/shop_exchange.pdf [PDF format, 59 pages].

How Much Might Automatic IRAs Improve Retirement Security for Low- and Moderate-Wage Workers? Urban Institute. Barbara Butrica and Richard W. Johnson. July 6, 2011.

Automatic individual retirement accounts (IRAs) could significantly boost retirement savings for millions of low- and moderate-wage workers. A proposal embraced by the Obama administration would require most employers that do not offer retirement plans to establish IRAs for their employees and automatically direct a portion of pay into the accounts, unless employees opt out. The reporting results, based on the Urban Institute's microsimulation model, show that automatic IRAs would boost retirement incomes for as many as half of low-income retirees and three-fifths of moderate-income retirees. For both groups, mean age-70 incomes among those who gain would increase by nearly a fifth. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412360-Automatic-IRAs-Improve-Retirement-Security.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Dangerous Substandard Medicines: An Increasing Global Problem. American Enterprise Institute Outlook Series. Roger Bate et al. July 6, 2011.

Today, nearly 80 percent of active pharmaceutical ingredients originate outside the United States. But the FDA cannot adequately oversee the safety of chemicals manufactured overseas and imported into the United States. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/HPO-2011-07-No-6-g-new.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

The Danger of Substandard Drugs in Emerging Markets: An Assessment of Basic Product Quality. American Enterprise Institute. Roger Bate et al. June 28, 2011.

Demand for pharmaceuticals in emerging economies is increasing and pharmaceutical companies are supplying medications to new consumers. Many developing nations, including Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria have recently developed their own pharmaceutical production capabilities and the number of licensed producers in India and China has increased significantly. In principle, expanded drug production is good for consumers since increased competition will cause prices to fall, thereby increasing drug access and patients' welfare. However, if the cheaper drugs are not bioequivalent to the approved innovator products which they are copying, this trend could cause significant harm to patients, says the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/Pharmacologia-Published.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

South China Sea: A Commons for China Only? YaleGlobal. Carlyle A. Thayer. July 7, 2011.

The 1982 U.N. Convention on Law of the Sea recognizes the common heritage of the world's oceans with a set of laws organizing exclusive zones for nations 200 nautical miles from their respective coasts. Waters beyond are open for use by all in ways that contribute to peace and friendly relations. By declaring sovereignty over the South China Sea, China rejects the convention, argues Carlyle A. Thayer. Current tensions over the South China Sea began in 2009 after the U.N. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf set a deadline for submitting claims for extended continental shelves beyond UNCLOS's 200 nautical miles. After Vietnam and Malaysia submitted claims, China submitted a map with nine dotted lines, claiming most of the sea. Six nations border the sea, and other nations also have great stakes in the outcome. That extensive claim lies behind the growing tension in the South China Sea, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/south-china-sea-commons-china-only [HTML format, various paging].

Radicalization, Linkage, and Diversity: Current Trends in Terrorism in Europe. RAND Corporation. Lorenzo Vidino. July 6, 2011.

Although it has not suffered a successful attack since the July 7, 2005, bombings in London, Europe perceives itself to be under a constant threat from jihadist-inspired terrorism. Based on a survey of legal documents, intelligence reports, academic literature, and media sources, and on conversations with experts and government officials, the paper provides an overview of current trends in jihadism in Europe from an operational perspective. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/occassional_papers/2011/RAND_OP333.pdf [PDF format, 49 pages].

European Unconventional Gas Developments: Environmental Issues and Regulatory Challenges in the EU and the U.S. Atlantic Council. Web posted July 7, 2011.

With the growing realization that substantial unconventional gas resources have the potential to play a major role in supplementing conventional gas resources in many countries, it has become important to consider the prospects, challenges and regulations necessary to ensure the safe and environmentally sound development of such resources. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/070711_ACUS_UnconvGas.PDF [PDF format, 35 pages].

Educating Women and Girls. Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. June 30, 2011.

Education is crucial to a country's economic and social development. Research by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) shows that each year of schooling increases an individual's economic output by 4 to 7 percent. Educating women and girls, in particular, yields profound social and economic benefits. Studies demonstrate that educating women and girls leads to lower infant and child mortality rates, lower maternal mortality rates, better educated children and increased participation by women in the workforce. Yet despite these benefits, in many countries females receive less schooling than males. The eJournal explores how

international organizations, state governments, the private sector and individuals, in many different countries, are tackling this global challenge and improving people's lives.

http://photos.state.gov/libraries/america/475/pdf/EducatingWomenandGirls_Vol15_No12.pdf [PD F format, 32 pages].

Progress of the World's Women 2011-2012: In Pursuit of Justice. U.N. Women. July 6, 2011.

The report presents the remarkable advances that have been made over the past century in the quest for gender equality and women's empowerment. Even within one generation we have witnessed a transformation in women's legal rights, which means that today, 125 countries have outlawed domestic violence, 115 guarantee equal property rights and women's voice in decision-making is stronger than ever before. Today, 28 countries have reached or surpassed the 30 percent mark for women's representation in parliament, putting women in the driving seat to forge further change." [*Note: contains copyrighted material*].

http://progress.unwomen.org/pdfs/EN-Report-Progress.pdf [PDF format, 168 pages].

The World Bank and Coal Aid. Brookings Institution. Nigel Purvis et al. October 2011.

World Bank staff and management proposed to phase out lending for new coal generation projects in middle-income countries in an initial draft of the institution's new ten-year energy sector lending strategy. One argument advanced by proponents of the restriction is that these projects typically have no trouble attracting private sector finance, and thus, the World Bank's involvement provides no additional development benefit. An independent analysis confirms these facts and shows that less polluting coal plants have been built in roughly two thirds of the middle-income countries that generate coal-fired power. Because energy projects can readily attract private capital to finance coal-fired power stations with the same proven technologies used in developed countries to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and local air pollution, the World Bank should allocate scarce multilateral development funding for other pressing investments that cannot attract private capital as easily, contends the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/1010_world_bank_coal_aid_purvis/Coal %20Aid%20Global%20Views.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

Committee Jurisdiction, Congressional Behavior and Policy Outcomes. National Bureau of Economic Research. John M. de Figueiredo. June 27, 2011.

The literature on congressional committees has largely overlooked the impact of jurisdictional fights on policy proposals and outcomes. The paper develops a theory of how legislators balance the benefits of expanded committee jurisdiction against preferred policy outcomes. It shows why a) senior members and young members in safe districts are most likely to challenge a committee's jurisdiction; b) policy proposals may be initiated off the proposer's ideal point in order to obtain jurisdiction; c) policy outcomes will generally be more moderate with jurisdictional fights than without these turf wars. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nber.org/papers/w17171.pdf [PDF format, 46 pages].

Climate Change, the Indoor Environment, and Health. Committee on the Effect of Climate Change on Indoor Air Quality and Public Health, Institute of Medicine. June 2011.

The indoor environment affects occupants' health and comfort. Poor environmental conditions and indoor contaminants are estimated to cost the U.S. economy tens of billions of dollars a year in exacerbation of illnesses like asthma, allergic symptoms, and subsequent lost productivity. Climate change has the potential to affect the indoor environment because conditions inside buildings are influenced by conditions outside them. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13115#toc [HTML format with links].

With Little Notice, Globalization Reduced Poverty. YaleGlobal. Laurence Chandy and Geoffrey Gertz. July 5, 2011.

A major success in a poverty-reduction goal for the new millennium - halving the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 per day - largely went unnoticed. The World Bank estimates poverty levels, but the most recent data is from 2005. By combining the recent country survey data of household consumption with latest figures on private consumption growth, Chandy and Gertz generated poverty estimates to the present day. They conclude that the world - even stubborn Sub-Saharan Africa - is in the midst of rapid poverty reduction; they credit economic growth and widespread development brought by globalization. Poverty reduction was one part of a key UN Millennium Goal, and global observers may sit up and take notice after two other key parts are achieved: full and productive employment for all and halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. In the meantime, the authors promise far-reaching consequences from rapid poverty reduction via growth. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/little-notice-globalization-reduced-poverty [HTML format, various paging].

Defence and Peace Economics: A Review of Recent Advances and Future Directions in the Quantitative Literature on Civil War. The World Bank. June 29, 2011.

Why is it important to study civil war? Five reasons have been suggested: 'civil war is widespread; it causes tremendous suffering; it almost always affects and involves neighboring states, thereby undermining regional stability; it often engages the interests of distant powers and international organizations; and efforts to deal with the problems posed by internal conflict are in the process of being reassessed by policymakers at the national level and in regional and international organizations'. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-wdss-

worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2011/07/04/000333037_201107040 04606/Rendered/PDF/630480WP0Civil00Box0361499B0PUBLIC0.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

Neither Isolationist nor Noninterventionist: The Right Way to Think About Foreign Policy. The Heritage Foundation. Marion Smith. July 5, 2011.

There is a lot of confusion about America's proper role in the world at the moment. The terms "isolationism" and "noninterventionism" are often used without clear meaning. These two concepts do have specific definitions that should be properly understood, but we must also be aware of how these terms are being used. The stakes are high, and America cannot afford another deadly encounter with isolationism, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://thf media.s3.amazonaws.com/2011/pdf/wm3309.pdf [PDF format, 3 ages].

War Powers Resolution: Presidential Compliance. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Richard F. Grimmett. June 24, 2011.

Two separate but closely related issues confront Congress each time the President introduces armed forces into a situation abroad that conceivably could lead to their involvement in hostilities. One issue concerns the division of war powers between the President and Congress, whether the use of armed forces falls within the purview of the congressional power to declare war and the War Powers Resolution (WPR). The other issue is whether or not Congress concurs in the wisdom of the action.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL33532.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

"Dirty Bombs": Technical Background, Attack Prevention and Response, Issues for Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jonathan Medalia. June 24, 2011.

Congress has long sought, through legislation and oversight, to protect the United States against terrorist threats, especially from chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons. Radiological dispoersal devices (RDDs) are one tyep of CBRN weapon. Explosive-driven "dirty bombs" are an often-discussed type of RDD, though radioactive material can also be dispersed in other ways. This report provides background for understainding the RDD threat and responses, and presents issues for Congress.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/nuke/R41890.pdf [PDF foramt, 88 pages].

Central America's Costly Drug Dilemma. Center for Strategic and International Studies. July 3, 2011.

The study looks at the Central America's drug issues. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110701 HemisphereInsider.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

Nyetizdat: How the Internet Is Building Civil Society in Russia. American Enterprise Institute. Leon Aron. June 29, 2011.

In the past decade, Russia has experienced explosive growth in the spread of the Internet and its applications. As in other authoritarian regimes, where the national media are state controlled, censored, or self-censored, the Russian "net" has become "a shelter in the world of censorship."[1] In this "shelter" capacity, "Ru.net," as it is known in Russia, is reminiscent of samizdat (literally, "self-publishing"), an underground network of banned fiction and nonfiction copied and clandestinely disseminated in the Soviet Union in the 1960s and 1970s. It thus may be named nyetizdat, since in Russian "no" and "net" have an identical spelling and sound.[2] Growing daily in penetration and sophistication, nyetizdat is a major and evolving factor in Russian politics today and, even more so, tomorrow. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/RO-Spring-2011-g.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

Emerging Markets Reshaping the World. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Uri Dadush and William Shaw. June 30, 2011.

Developing countries are transforming every aspect of global economic interaction. Global leadership is needed to ensure that this shift is marked by increased prosperity rather than conflict. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://carnegieendowment.org/2011/06/30/emerging-markets-reshaping-world/tyr [HTML format, various paging].

The Effect of Food and Beverage Prices on Children's Weights. U.S. Department of Agriculture. June 30, 2011.

One factor that may be important in explaining rising childhood obesity is food prices. This report explores the effect of food prices on children's Body Mass Index (BMI) using data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998-99 (ECLS-K) and the Quarterly Foodat-Home Price Database. On average, higher prices for soda, 100 percent juices, starchy vegetables, and sweet snacks are associated with lower BMIs among children. In addition, lower prices for dark green vegetables and lowfat milk are associated with reduced BMI. The effect of subsidizing healthy food may be just as large as raising prices of less healthy foods.

http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publication/ERR118/ERR118.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

Profile of Degree/Certificate-Seeking Entering Undergraduate Students, By Control and Level of Institution. National Center for Education Statistics. June 27, 2011.

These Web Tables compare enrollment information for entering full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking students to three other degree- or certificate-seeking entering student groups: (1) part-time, first-time students; (2) full-time, transfer-in students; and (3) part-time, transfer-in students. The Web Tables present the distribution of these four student groups across institutions possessing different characteristics and by the gender and race/ethnicity of the entering student population.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011252.pdf [PDF format, 34 pages].

Foreign Assistance: Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs). Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Marian Leonardo Lawson. June 13, 2011.

The flow of private sector resources to developing countries has increased significantly in recent decades. Seeking oppportunity in this changing environment, government development assistance agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development and the State Department are working with private sector entities in unprecedented ways to determine when and if such partnerships can lead to improved development results.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41880.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

International Climate Change Financing: The Green Climate Fund (GCF). Congressional Research Service, Library of Congres. Richard K. Lattanzio. June 23, 2011.

Over the past several decades, the U.S. has delivered financial and technical assistance for climate change activities in the developing world through a variety of bilateral and multilateral programs. The Cancun Agreements proposed that the pledged funds are to be new, additional to previous flows, adequate, predictable, and sustained, and are to come from a wide variety of sources, both public and private, bilateral and multilatgeral, including alternative sources of finance.

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41889.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

Charting New Territory: Tapping Charter Schools to Turn Around the Nation's Dropout Factories. Center for American Progress. Melissa Lazarin. June 30, 2011.

Melissa Lazarín explores the role of charter schools in turning around the nation's lowest-performing high schools. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/06/pdf/charter_schools.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

As Number One, China to Face Hour of Choice. YaleGlobal. Richard Bush. June 30, 2011.

China is on track to become the world's largest economy, and the Chinese welcome the milestone, anticipating greater influence over world affairs. But economic size does not automatically translate into greater or less power and influence, warns Richard Bush. He compares today's rankings of economies, the U.S., China and Japan, with those existing in 1913. Just prior to World War I, the U.S., China and Germany were the top-ranked economies. At that point in history, the U.S. did not wield broad international influence or possess the strongest military. The impending conflict was hardly inevitable. When economic order shifts, rising countries are called upon to make choices between aggression and accommodation, displays of leadership and status quo, narrow commercial interests and investment in research, flashy infrastructure and sustainable prosperity. "In short," Bush concludes, "the choices that major powers make are more important than their economic rank." [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/number-one-china-face-hour-choice [HTML format, various paging].

Asia Matters for America: The Source for Hundreds of Thousands of U.S. Jobs is Asia. YaleGlobal. Satu Limaye. June 28, 2011.

U.S. workers and politicians rail about jobs lost to Asia. But Asian-US interactions in education, immigration, investment, tourism and trade produce U.S. jobs and income, explains Satu Limaye. He created Asia Matters for America, an online map that relies on U.S. government data to show exports, as well as their growth and percentage of total trade, between 2001 and 2008, for each state and U.S. congressional district. The site, still under development, also displays Asian students and citizens per state. The U.S. is haunted by trade deficits, yet its exports of goods and services to Asia outrank trade with the European Union, Mexico or Canada. Limaye estimates that Asian exports account for more than 850,000 US jobs. Nations and politicians, like their entrepreneurs, are naturally competitive. Stopping strong candidates, solid investments or needed innovations at borders is not a formula for creating jobs. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/asia-matters-america [HTML format, various paging].

Growing Economies, Rising Problems - Part II. YaleGlobal. Uri Dadush and William Shaw. June 23, 2011.

The global economy is expected to triple in size by the year 2050, and much of the growth will come from emerging economies, which were viewed not long ago as impoverished and backward. The report examines the consequences of the changing global economic order. While developing nations accrue more economic power, thanks to their large populations, they'll remain relatively poor, note the authors. "This dissociation between economic wealth and size will complicate the ability to reach international economic agreements," they explain. Global institutions must prepare on four fronts as developing economies dominate trade and carry more weight in global finance with less sturdy regulatory institutions, as pressures to immigrate to the developed world and need to protect the global commons expand. Nations must approach agreements with a new global conscience that recognizes interconnections and consequences,

the authors urge, and global groups should abandon consensus decision-making to tackle the most serious and complex global challenges. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/growing-economies-rising-problems-part-ii [HTML format, various paging].

Alliances in the 21st Century: Implications for the US-European Partnership. RAND Corporation. Jeremy J.Ghez. June 28, 2011.

The paper's argument is two-fold. First, the concepts of "partnership" and "alliance" deserve to be unpacked because they can reflect very different motivations and realities. Second, strategic partnerships do not exclusively take the form of a threat or an adversary-based alliance. Partnerships that are driven commonalities in political culture -- "natural alliances" -- can also be the expression of a very pragmatic approach to international relations, especially for leaders in search of predictability in an uncertain global landscape. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/occasional_papers/2011/RAND_OP340.pdf [PDF formt, 48 pages].

National Strategy for Counterterrorism. The White House. June 2011.

"This National Strategy for Counterterrorism articulates our government's approach to countering terrorism and identifies the range of tools critical to this Strategy's success. This Strategy builds on groundwork laid by previous strategies and many aspects of the United States Government's enduring approach to countering terrorism. At the same time, it outlines an approach that is more focused and specific than were previous strategies. The United States deliberately uses the word "war" to describe our relentless campaign against al-Qa'ida. However, this Administration has made it clear that we are not at war with the tactic of terrorism or the religion of Islam. We are at war with a specific organization--al-Qa'ida."

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/counterterrorism_strategy.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

The State of America's National Parks. National Parks Conservation Association, June 2011.

The State of America's National Parks is the culmination of ten years of research on the condition of natural and cultural resources within America's national parks. The data for this report were gleaned from the Center's research on 80 national parks. This research uncovered many examples of serious threats to park resources, including impacts from activities occurring on adjacent lands, concerns related to invasive non-native species, insufficient attention given to the stewardship of cultural resources, and a general lack of sufficient staff and funds to care for and interpret park resources. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.npca.org/cpr/sanp/SANP-long-WEB.pdf [PDF format, 68 pages].

National Cord Blood Inventory: Practices for Increasing Availability for Transplants and Related Challenges. U.S. Government Accountability Office. October 7, 2011.

Every year, many people diagnosed with diseases such as leukemia and lymphoma require transplants of stem cells from umbilical cord blood or other sources. The Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 authorized funding for banking 150,000 new units of high quality and genetically diverse cord blood and directed the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to contract with cord blood banks to assist in cord blood collection. HHS, through the Health

Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), established the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI) program to support banking of cord blood units and contracted with 13 cord blood banks to bank these units. The 2010 reauthorization required GAO to report on efforts to increase cord blood unit collection for the NCBI. As of May 2011, HRSA had reimbursed banks for over 41,000 units banked for the NCBI. In this report, GAO describes (1) practices identified to increase banking of cord blood units for the NCBI and related challenges and (2) practices cord blood banks are using to lower costs and improve the efficiency of cord blood banking and associated challenges.

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d1223.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

The Defense Department's Enduring Contributions to Global Health. Center for Strategic & International Studies. J. Stephen Morrison et al. June 28, 2011.

In the spring of 2010, CSIS launched a year-long, independent examination of the U.S. Army and Navy overseas medical research laboratories. The impetus was an awareness that despite the laboratories' impressive scientific accomplishments and contributions to U.S. national interests and global health, they are not well understood outside of research circles and consequently find themselves undervalued in today's environment of fiscal austerity. The CSIS project aimed to assess the laboratories' contributions and achievements; examine the factors that constrain their performance; and propose reforms that will put them on the best course to continued success. It included considerable background research, three formal meetings of experts, travel to five overseas laboratories, and interviews with dozens of laboratory researchers and collaborators. This report lays out the project's research, conclusions, and recommendations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/110615_Peake_DoDOverseasLabs_Web_0.pdf [PDF format, 50 pages].

Patterns in Terrorism in North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia and South Asia: 2007-2010. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Anthony H. Cordesman. June 29, 2011.

The report draws on an extensive modeling effort by Andrew C. Gagel. It provides a statistical trend of the U.S. count of terrorist actions by terrorist organization in each region and country, along with maps of the number and density of terrorist acts. These trends and developments are summarized in a short overview for each sub region. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

https://csis.org/files/publication/110629_MENA_Central_Asia_China_Terrorism_2007_2010.pdf [PDF format, 49 pages].

Ecological and Nontraditional Security Challenges in South Asia. National Bureau of Asian Research. Dennis Pirages et al. June 12, 2011.

In 2009, under the aegis of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Asia Security Initiative, the National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) launched a three-year initiative to examine opportunities for cooperation on shared nontraditional security concerns as potential building blocks toward developing a viable regional security architecture for South Asia. This NBR Special Report is the first of a series of reports to be published through the course of 2011 drawing on papers prepared for the project's first phase. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.nbr.org/publications/specialreport/pdf/Free/SR28.pdf [PDF format, 52 pages].

The Impact of Russia's 2010 Grain Export Ban. Oxfam International. George Welton. June 28, 2011.

The report looks at the short- and long-term impact of the grain export ban issued by the Russian government during 2010-11. In the summer of 2010 Russia experienced a heat wave that included the highest temperatures recorded in 130 years. As news of this disaster, and the resulting drop in Russia's grain crop became known, international grain prices increased dramatically. In response to this increase, and in an effort to protect local consumers and local meat producers, the Russian government instituted a grain export ban that pushed grain prices higher in the international markets. As the ban is set to end on 1 July 2011, the paper considers it effectiveness, both in the short- and long-term. It shows that the ban did not bring food prices down in Russia, that it increased the price of grain internationally, and helped create an environment where price spikes and general instability are far more likely in the future. It concludes with recommendations for alternative policies to increase food security in the future. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.oxfam.org/en/grow/policy/impact-russias-2010-grain-export-ban [HTML format with a link].

Living Together: The Economics of Cohabitation. Pew Social & Demographic Trends. Richard Fry and D'Vera Cohn. June 27, 2011.

Cohabitation is an increasingly prevalent lifestyle in the United States. The share of 30- to 44-year-olds living as unmarried couples has more than doubled since the mid-1990s. Adults with lower levels of education -- without college degrees -- are twice as likely to cohabit as those with college degrees. The analysis of census data suggests that less-educated adults are less likely to realize the economic benefits associated with cohabitation. The typical college-educated cohabiter is at least as well off as a comparably educated married adult and better off than an adult without an opposite-sex partner. By contrast, a cohabiter without a college degree typically is worse off than a comparably educated married adult and no better off economically than an adult without an opposite-sex partner. Most adults without opposite-sex partners live with other adults or children. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://pewsocialtrends.org/files/2011/06/pew-social-trends-cohabitation-06-2011.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

Overlooked and Underpaid: How Title I Shortchanges High Schools, and What ESEA Can Do About It. Alliance for Excellent Education, June 23, 2011.

The paper summarizes the ways in which high schools are overlooked within Title I policy. Specific examples are provided in order to illustrate and explain the complexities of Title I policy, and recommendations for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are provided in order to strengthen support of high schools through Title I. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.all4ed.org/files/OverlookedUnderpaidTitlel.pdf [PDF format, 11 pages].

Title I and High Schools: Addressing the Needs of Disadvantaged Students at All Grade Levels. Alliance for Excellent Education. Wayne Riddle. June 23, 2011.

Authored by Wayne Riddle, a veteran of the Congressional Research Service and an expert on Title I, the paper explains in detail the process in which states, districts, and schools receive Title I funding, and discusses the low level of support that high schools receive from Title I. New data

in this report includes a state-by-state analysis of the number of high-poverty high schools that are not eligible for Title I. Additionally, recommendations for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are provided in order to strengthen support of high schools through Title I. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.all4ed.org/files/TitlelandHSs.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

The Disappearing Act: The Illicit Trade in Wildlife in Asia. Brookings Institution. Vanda Felbab-Brown. June 2011.

Southeast Asia is rapidly becoming one of the world's "wildlife trade hotspots," despite the enormous threat this illicit activity poses to the area's biodiversity and species preservation. Vanda Felbab-Brown offers a broad set policy recommendations that form a regulatory structure to counteract the detrimental effects of this market and enhance conservation. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/papers/2011/06_illegal_wildlife_trade_felbabbrown/06 illegal_wildlife_trade_felbabbrown.pdf [PDF format, 43 pages].

The United States and China: Macroeconomic Imbalances and Economic Diplomacy. American Enterprise Institute. Philip I. Levy. June 28, 2011.

Ample mutual misunderstanding exists between the United States and China in their economic arguments. The momentous debates have the potential to severely impair the institutions of global economic governance, and there is likely to be an important race between economic and demographic forces that will naturally redress the imbalances and the political imperatives for each country to stand tough and fight, according to the author. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.aei.org/docLib/ADBI-GMU-Levy-8-June-2011.pdf [PDF format, 43 pages].

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